

AN EASY ²⁴⁸
INTRODUCTION ^{78/13 M}
TO THE
ARTS and SCIENCES:

BEING
A Short, but Comprehensive System
OF
USEFUL and POLITE LEARNING.

DIVIDED INTO
LESSONS.

Illustrated with CUTS, and adapted to the Use of
Schools and Academies.

By R. TURNER, Jun. of MAGDALEN-HALL,
OXFORD:

Author of an Easy Introduction to Geography, &c.

Ingenus didicisse fideliter artes

Emollit mores.-----

Asperitatis et invidiæ corrector et ira.

To have learned the liberal arts thoroughly---softens the manners, and
operates as an excellent corrector of ill-nature, envy, and anger.

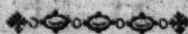
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L O N D O N:

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Καὶ ΒΡΕΦΟΣ διδάσκειται
Λέγει, ἀκούειδ', ὡς μάθῃσιν οὐκ ἔχει
"Ἄδ' αὖ μάθῃ τις, ταῦτα σώζεσθαι φιλεῖ
Πρὸς γῆρας· ἔντω ΠΑΙΔΑΣ ΕΥ ΠΑΙΔΕΥΕΤΕ.
EURIPIDES.

—E'en the INFANT learns
To form new Notions, and to utter them;
And what he learns, he faithfully retains
When he is old:—INSTRUCT THEN YOUR
CHILDREN WELL.



C O N T E N T S.

LESSON	Page
I. <i>On RELIGION—its Division into the Religion of Nature, the Religion of the Jews, and the Religion of the Christians, &c.</i>	1
II. <i>The ARTS AND SCIENCES—Theology, —Philosophy—Logic—Morality—Physics—Meteors</i>	5
III. <i>The Winds—Clouds and Mists—Rain —Dew—Snow</i>	11
IV. <i>Hail—Thunder and Lightning—the Iris or Rainbow—Aurora borealis—Earthquakes</i>	17
V. <i>Tides—Metaphysics—Jurisprudence</i>	23
VI. <i>Medicine—Anatomy—Surgery—Pharmacy—Chemistry—Botany</i>	28
VII. <i>Rhetorick and Oratory—Grammar</i>	33
VIII. <i>Poetry—the Languages</i>	41
IX. <i>The Mathematics—Arithmetic—Commerce—Geometry</i>	51
X. <i>Archi-</i>	

14x

14

C O N T E N T S.

LESSON	Page
X. <i>Architecture—Painting—Sculpture— Optics—Mechanics</i>	59
XI. <i>Division of Time, or Chronology</i>	66
XII. <i>Cosmography, or the Universe</i>	78
XIII. <i>Geography</i>	88
XIV. <i>Sequel of Geography</i>	95
XV. <i>History—Assyrian—Persian—Gre- cian—Roman Empires—Succession of English Kings, &c. &c.</i>	108
XVI. <i>Mythology—Jupiter, Neptune— Pluto, &c.</i>	121
XVII. <i>Mythology—Parnassus—Demi-Gods or Heroes, &c.</i>	137

E R R A T A.

Page 46, line 8, for n read h *hard-aspirate*.
 Page 47, line 4, for ננך read ננך.

one epithet, perhaps, best distinguished from the brute.

Q. How is the religion of the Jews founded?

A. On the Old Testament, and the law given by Moses to the tribes of Israel.

Q. Who is the Author of the Christian religion?

A. The Son of God, who left the bosom of the Father, and all his glories there, to dwell in flesh and blood: he became the child of a poor maid in Galilee;—when grown up, he appeared as a young carpenter, and sweat and laboured in the trade of his father Joseph.—He travelled on foot to preach his divine gospel, when he might have been borne on the wings of angels;—he was content with mean lodgings in the tents of poor fishermen in Galilee, the most contemptible country of the Jews;—and sometimes the Lord of glory had not where to lay his head.—An obscure life on earth veiled the Majesty of the King of Heaven.—Such was the amazing humility of the Son of God, the blessed Author of Christi-

anity; such the example left us by the meek and lowly Jesus.

Q. How many false or spurious religions are there?

A. Two;—Paganism and Mahometanism.

Q. What is Paganism?

A. The religion of the Pagans, or Heathen nations;—and, because they represent the deity under several forms or idols, it is called idolatry, or image worship.

Q. From whom has Mahometanism its rise?

A. From the imposture Mahomed, who appeared in the seventh century;—his whole doctrine is a ridiculous jumble of Heathenism, Judaism, and Christian heresies, and is contained in the rapsody of the Alcoran.

Q. Of what advantage is an exact observance of religion to a state?

A. Very great; it inspires honesty in every one, justice in princes, fidelity in subjects, integrity in Magistrates, good faith in commerce, and union in marriage.

LESSON

LESSON II.

OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES.

"The *taking a taste* of *every sort* of knowledge is necessary
"to form the mind, and is the only way to give the
"understanding its due improvement to the full ex-
"tent of its capacity."
LOCKE.

Quest. WHAT is science?

Ans. A certain and evident
knowledge of some thing.

Q. What is an art?

A. Art is the way of doing a thing sure-
ly, readily, and gracefully.

Q. How are the arts divided?

A. Those that belong to sciences, as phi-
losophy, rhetoric, grammar, mathematics,
astronomy, painting, music, and sculpture,
all the others are called mechanical.

Q. Why are they called the liberal arts?

A. Because the ancients allowed them to
be studied only by the *Liberi* or free persons.

Q. How many sciences are there?

B 3

A. Eight

A. Eight principal ones;—1st, Theology, 2d, Philosophy, 3d, Jurisprudence, 4th, Medicine, 5th, Rhetoric, 6th, Grammar, 7th, Poetry, and the 8th, Mathematics.

I. *Of Theology.*

Q. What is theology?

A. That science which contemplates the nature of God, and divine things.

Q. How is the word theology derived?

A. From the Greek words, signifying the *word of God*.

Q. How may the existence of God be proved?

A. What is necessary to be known of God is manifest in the works of the creation. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the rich furniture thereof. The sun, the moon, and stars, shew themselves to be his handy-work. There is no nation on the face of the whole earth where their voice is not heard, for it is gone through

through all the earth, and their world to the end of the world.

Q. To whom was the title of theologian first given?

A. To ST. JOHN, who has by that name been distinguished from the other three Evangelists, because they only wrote the History of the Life of Jesus Christ, but St. John wrote his gospel to establish his eternal divinity (as the word of God), and his incarnation.

II. *Philosophy.*

Q. What is philosophy?

A. The study of nature and morality and founded upon reason.

Q. What is the etymology of the word philosophy.

A. It is compounded of the two Greek words *φιλία* love, and *σοφία* wisdom or knowledge.

Q. Into how many parts is it divided?

B 4

A. Four,

A. Four, logic, morality, physics, metaphysics.

I. *Logic.*

Q. What is logic?

A. The art of using reason well in our enquiries after truth, and the communications of it to others.

Q. In what does this art consist?

A. In the reflections made by men upon the four principal faculties of their mind, perception, judgment, reasoning, disposition.

II. *Morality.*

Q. In what are we instructed by morality?

A. It gives us rules for the behaviour, manners, and conduct of man, whether it be in public or private life, and is properly called *Ethics*, from the Greek word *ἠθικός*, and *morality* from the Latin word *mos*, plural

ral *mores*, both signifying manners or behaviour.

III. *Physics.*

Q. From what is the word physics derived?

A. From the Greek word *φύσις* nature, or *φύσιν* natural.

Q. Of what does it treat?

A. Of all natural things;—it teaches us to explain all the phœnomena of the heavens and earth.—And,

1. *Of Meteors.*

Q. What is a meteor?

A. A meteor is whatever is engendered in the air which surrounds us, and which appears to be beyond the moon. This word signifies bodies raised above the earth we inhabit.

Q. What is the air?

B 5

A. A

A. A transparent, invifible, and impalpable liquid matter, encompassing on all parts the terreftrial globe. The air, by experiments has been found to be 84⁰ times lighter than water.

This air is compofed of a high, middle, and lower region.

The air of the higher region is more fubtile and more cold than that of the middle; and that of the middle ftill finer than the lower.

Q. What is the compofition of meteors?

A. Vapours and exhalations.

Vapours are particles of water that mingle with the air.

Exhalations are particles of all the different terreftrial bodies that rife into the air, fulphurs, falts, bitumens, and other bodies of different natures, more or lefs combuftible, folid or heavy.

LESSON III.

2. *The Wind.*

Q. **W**HAT is the wind?

A. Nothing else but the air put violently into motion; and the more swift this motion is, and the more dense the air, the greater will be the wind's force; if the swiftness encreases to a high degree, it is then called a storm.

Q. How are the winds divided?

A. Into four principal ones, the NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, and WEST, which receive their name from the four principal quarters of the world.

The Frigid Zone is the parent of the North Wind, which is consequently the coldest.

The South Wind is the warmest, particularly in the summer, because it comes from
the

the Torrid Zone, over countries hotter than ours.

The East Wind is the dryest, because it comes across the vast continent of Asia, but little watered by rivers or seas.

The West Wind is generally damp, and often blows us rain; because, as it crosses the great Atlantic ocean, it attracts a great quantity of vapours.

When these impetuous winds happen to meet, the greatest inconveniences follow. The sulphureous exhalations from the south, torrent of nitre from the north, and watery vapours from every side, become, indiscriminately, blended together in one confused mass.—From hence proceed tempests, thunder, rain, hail, and whirlwinds.

The air is often seen to move in two contrary currents, and this almost ever previous to thunder. The clouds in such a case are seen to move one way, while the weather-cock points another.

Red clouds appearing in the morning presage winds.

3. Clouds

3. *Clouds and Mists.*

Q. How are mists formed?

A. Mists are those collections of vapours which chiefly rise from fenny moist places, which become more visible as the light of the day decreaseth.

Q. What are clouds?

A. Clouds are nothing else but a dark collection of misty vapours, suspended aloft in the air, and soaring on the wings of the wind.

Q. Pray how high do you suppose the clouds to fly?

A. From about a quarter of a mile to a mile. It is common for persons, by climbing very high mountains, to get above the clouds, and see them swim beneath them, cleaving against the mountains they are on.

Q. Whence the various figures and colours of the clouds?

A. The wonderful variety in the colours of the clouds, is owing to their particular situation

situation to the sun, and the different reflections of his light: the various figure of the clouds, results from their loose and volatile texture, revolving into any form according to the different force of the winds.

4. *Rain.*

Q. What is rain?

A. Nothing but thick clouds condensed by the cold, which, by their own weight, fall upon the earth in small quantities, called drops of water.

Those small clouds, sometimes seen very high heaped one upon the other, presage rain very soon.

When the horizon, at the rising or setting of the sun, appears pale and yellowish, it is a sign of the air being full of vapours, and promises bad weather.

But when it is of a light red at those times, there are but few vapours in the air, and fine weather may be expected.

If

If the cloud that melts is greatly rarified, and its particles, in falling, meet an air moderately warm, these drops will be so small, that they will not compose rain, but rime only.

The Dew.

Q. From what is the dew produced?

A. From a quantity of particles of water extremely subtile, that float about in a calm and serene air in form of vapours, which, being condensed by the coldness of the night, loose by degrees their agitation, and many uniting together, fall in the morning in small invisible particles like an extremely fine and delicate rain, which continues but a short time, and is seen in drops of water like pearls upon leaves and herbs.

Snow.

Q. How is snow formed?

A. Snow

A. Snow is produced thus: in winter the regions of the air are intensely cold, and the clouds finding this great cold on every side, quickly pass from that state of condensation that might reduce them to rain, into that which is able to reduce them to ice; so that in winter, as soon as the clouds begin to change into very fine drops of water, each of these small particles freeze, and touching each other, form flakes of snow.

Q. Why are these flakes so light, and the snow so white?

A. The small intervals that the flakes leave between them, like so many pores, filled with a subtile air, are the cause of their lightness.

The snow is white, because the small particles of ice that compose those flakes being hard, solid, transparent and differently arranged, they reflect to us the light from all parts.

LESSON

LESSON IV.

Of the Hail.

HAIL is formed when the parts of the cloud, beginning to fall, meet in their descent a very cold air, which freezes them, and these small bits of ice, are very near the figure and size the drops of water would have been had they fallen.

Thunder and Lightning.

Q. WHAT is thunder?

A. A noise heard in the air, most frequently in the summer. Thunder is the most wonderful of all meteors.

Q. What is the cause of this meteor?

A. Thunder is caused by the nitrous or sulphureous particles of the clouds, taking fire through the fierceness of their motion, occasioned by strong winds, and bursting with

with a tremendous noise, which is preceded by a flash of fire, or lightening.

The reason we do not hear the dreadful noise of the thunder, so soon as we see the lightening, is, because sound is longer arriving to our ears, than light to our sight.

The continuation and repetition of the sound is caused by a kind of echo formed in the clouds, to which many hard bodies upon the earth may contribute, which return those rollings we hear after a great clap of thunder.

Q I have heard talk of thunder-bolts and their strange effects, pray what are they?

A. What is called a thunder-bolt is nothing but a more solid and most rapid flame, which, with incredible swiftness, flies from the clouds to the earth, and through every thing standing in its way, being interrupted by nothing. It sometimes kills men and animals, burns and overthrows large trees and buildings, and sets fire to every thing in its way.

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Of the Iris or Rainbow and Halos.

Q. What is the Iris or Rainbow?

A. A beautiful arch in the heavens, ornamented with various colours, that is only seen when the spectator turns his back to the sun, and when it rains on the opposite side. Its colours are, beginning from the under part, violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange, red.

Q. What was the opinion of the ancients concerning this meteor?

A. Its beautiful colours struck antiquity with amazement. To the philosophers Pliny and Plutarch, it appeared as an object which we might admire, but could never explain.—The priests always preferred the wood on which the rainbow had appeared to rest for their sacrifices, vainly supposing that this wood had a perfume peculiarly agreeable to their deities.

Q. Please

Q Please to explain a little how the rainbow is produced, and how it acquires its beautiful and wonderful form?

A. Some philosophers of the obscure ages began to form more just conceptions concerning this meteor; but as they were ignorant of the true causes of colours, they left the task unfinished for Newton to complete.—It is made, according to his theory, by the rays of the sun darting upon drops of falling rain or mist, and from thence reflected to the spectator's eye.

Q. You have said nothing of the rainbows that sometimes appear by night in the moonshine;—what think you of them?

A. The *lunar* rainbow is formed exactly in the same manner, by the bright beams of the moon striking upon the bosom of a shower.

Q. How do you account for that lucid ring we see diffused round the moon called an halo.

A. As this always appears in a *rimy* or *frosty* season we may suppose it occasioned by the refraction of light in the frozen particles of the air.

The

The Aurora Borealis.

Q. What is the cause of the Aurora Borealis, or that shining light which is often seen by night in the heavens, and which the vulgar call northern lights or streamers?

A. They may be the result of certain nitrous and sulphureous vapours, thinly spread through the atmosphere above the clouds, where they ferment, and taking fire, the explosion of one portion kindles the next, and the flashes succeed one another, till the vapour is set on fire, the streams whereof seem to converge towards the zenith of the spectator, or that point of the heavens which is immediately over his head.

Earthquakes.

Q. What is an earthquake?

A. A sudden motion caused by the inflammation of some sulphureous and bituminous exhalations contained in the caverns of the earth, not far from its surface.

—In

—In the southern countries, earthquakes are very frequent.—

Naturalists attribute them both to air and water, and that very truly.—To comprehend this more easily, it must be remarked that the surface of the earth is, as it were, a shell, beneath which there are an infinite number of cavities and canals, sufficient to contain a considerable quantity of air, water, &c. which, attempting to rush out violently, causes those extraordinary tremblings of the earth.

Q. Are there not many subterraneous places in the earth from which issue torrents of smoke and of flames, rivers of melted metals, and clouds of ashes and stones?

A. Yes, they are called *volcanos*; the most famous are those of mount *Etna* in Sicily, *Vesuvius* in Naples, and *Ecla* in Iceland. The bowels of these burning mountains contain sulphur, bitumen, and other inflammable matter, the effects of which are more dreadful than those of thunder or of gun-powder, and they have in all ages astonished mankind, and desolated the earth.

LESSON

LESSON V.

Of Tides.

2 **P**RAY what is meant by the tides or alternate flux and reflux of the sea?

A. As rivers flow and swell, so also does the sea: like them it has its currents, that agitate its waters, and preserves them from putrefaction. This great motion of the ocean is called its tides. The waters of the ocean have been observed regularly from all antiquity to swell twice in about four and twenty hours, and as often to subside again.

In its flux the sea generally rises for six hours when it remains, as it were, suspended, and in equilibrio; for about twelve minutes at that time it is called high water.

In its reflux the sea falls for six hours, when it remains, as it were, in a like manner suspended, and in equilibrio; for about twelve

twelve minutes at that time, it is called low water.

2. What is the cause of these wonderful appearances?

A. We are told that *Aristotle*, despairing to discover the true cause that produced them, had the folly, in spite of his philosophy, to throw himself headlong into the sea.—According to *Newton* they are occasioned by the attraction of the moon; for the waters immediately underneath the moon will be attracted up in a heap, whilst the waters on the opposite side the earth, being but feebly attracted, will be very light—if they be very light, they also will rise and all the neighbouring waters flowing in to that place, they will swell into an heap or mountain of waters, pointing to the opposite parts of the heavens. Thus does the moon, in once going round the earth in twenty-four hours, produce two tides or swells, and consequently as many ebbs.

The

These tides must flow from east to west, for they must necessarily follow the moon's motion, which is from east to west.

Of Metaphysics.

Q. What is meant by metaphysics?

A. A science more sublime than physics.

Q. What is the difference of these two sciences?

A. Physics treats of natural things, and judges of them from experience.

Metaphysics is applied only to the contemplation of God, angels, and spiritual things, and judges of them only by abstraction, and independent of material things.

Jurisprudence.

Q. What is jurisprudence?

A. The knowledge of the rights, customs, ordinances, &c. necessary for the administration of justice being derived from
C the

the two Latin words *jūs*, right, and *prudētia*, knowledge or skill.

Q. How is right distinguished?

A. Into the *right, or law, of nature*, the *law of nations*, and the *civil law*.

Q. What is the law of nature?

A. That which nature and reason have taught men; as the power it gives to fathers and mothers over their children.

Q. In what does the law of nations consist?

A. In public acts and statutes which provide for the public utility and necessity of the people considered as a body corporate, and ordain and decree whatever relates to obedience and subjection, dominion, and government, war and peace, contracts divisions of lands, foundations of societies, and the constitution of cities, towns, and villages.

Q. What is the civil law?

A. The civil law is that which is peculiar to any country or people, and administers that which arises from their particular situation, and special relations and circumstances.

stances. When this respects a city or borough town, it is called their *municipal* law. The professors of this sort of law are called civilians.

2. Specify the several kinds of laws now in use in England?

A. The laws by which England are governed, are, 1st, *the civil law*, before-mentioned; 2d, *common law*, containing a summary of all the laws, rights, and privileges of the people of England, in what is called the *magna charta*, or great charter of English rights; 3d, *statute laws*, consisting of statutes, acts, and ordinances of king and parliament; 4th, *cannon law*, consisting of the canons of general councils and national and provincial synods, with the decrees of popes, the judgment of ancient fathers, &c. used in ecclesiastical affairs; 5th, *martial law*, used in all military and maritime affairs; 6th, *forest law*, which relates to the regulations of forests, and the chase; 7th, to these may be added the *law of custom*, which is remarkable in some parts of England.

LESSON VI.

Of Medicine.

Q. IN what does the art of medicine or physic consist?

A. In the knowledge of such disorders as the human body is liable to, and the nature of such drugs and medicines as are necessary to remove them when they happen. And the person who possesses this skill is called a physician.

Q. How may this knowledge of the human body be acquired?

A. By the help of anatomy.

Of Anatomy.

Q. What do you mean by anatomy?

A. I mean a dissection of the human body which affords an easy method of examining all its parts; and to discover what is able to diminish or strengthen the constitution.

Q. How

Q. How is medicine divided ?

A. Into theoretic and practical. The theoretic applies itself to the contemplation and to the quality of remedies, or consideration of the nature of sickness; the practical discovers, by experience, the particulars of each sickness, and applies such remedies as are proper to promote a quick cure.

Surgery.

Q. What is surgery ?

A. Surgery (or chirurgery) is that useful branch of the healing art, which consists in the manual operations, with proper instruments, and as its effects are more evident than those of medicine, it has always been much cultivated.

Q. What disorders demand the surgeon's care, and make the subject of his art.

A. 1st, All kinds of *tumours* or swellings; 2d, *ulcers*, or running sores; 3d, *fistulas*; 4th, *inflammations*, or strumous disorders; 5th, all kinds of wounds; 6th, *gangrenes*,

or mortifications; 7th, *dislocation*, or dis-jointed limbs; 8th, *fractures*, or broken limbs.

Q. What ought to be the proper qualifications of a good surgeon?

A. A good surgeon ought to be well skilled in anatomy, medicine, and other parts of learning; a man of good experience, great dexterity, an unshaken courage, and steady hand, a clear sight, quick thought, and of an ingenuous and honest mind.

Of Pharmacy.

Q. Inform me what the other part of physic called pharmacy is?

A. Pharmacy teaches the choice, preparation, and mixture of medicines. This science is no more than the profession of apothecaries. Pharmacy comes from *pharmakon*, which signifies a remedy. The book directing how such medicines are to be made, is called a *dispensatory*.

Of Chemistry.

Q. What is chemistry?

A. Another part of medicine that teaches to reduce mixed bodies, so as to know the parts, to separate the bad, to collect and refine the good,—chemists have made discoveries of the highest use to physicians and surgeons.

Of Botany.

Q. What is understood by botany?

A. That other part of physic which treats of plants, herbs, and vegetables, and describes their nature, kinds, and uses in medicine, and other affairs of life.—The word *botany*, is derived from the Greek word BOTANE, which signifies an herb.—A book on this subject is called an herbal; and a professor of this art or knowledge is called a *botanist*, *herbalist*, or *simplar*.

Q. Is botany very necessary to a physician?

C 4

A. Yes;

A. Yes; for it includes the knowledge of all medicinal plants, without which it would be impossible for him to use any of them, but at a very great hazard of the life of the sick person, or, at the least, doing him a great injury.

LESSON

LESSON VII.

Of Rhetorick and Oratory.

Q. WHAT is rhetorick ?

A. The art of speaking and writing well, and ornamentally on any subject; to please, to touch the passions, and to persuade, whether in speaking or writing. A speech made according to the rules of this art, is called an *oration*, and the speaker an *orator*.

Q. What are the qualifications of a good orator ?

A. It is necessary that he should have *Invention*, by which he finds out such reasons and arguments as are adapted to persuade or gain belief.

II. *Disposition* or *order*, that he may know to dispose or arrange his arguments in a proper order or method.

C 5

III. *Elocution*,

III. *Elacution*, which is a clear and neat manner of expression, and is embellished with tropes and figures.

IV. *Memory*, which is the power of the mind to retain the things he has learnt, till he shall be in want of them.

V. *Pronounciation*, which relates to the delivery of a discourse or oration in a distinct and agreeable manner; with a pleasing modulation of voice, and becoming gesture of the body; of all the qualifications of a good orator; *this* is certainly the most useful.

Q You have mentioned tropes and figures, pray explain them to me; and first a trope?

A. A *trope* is an elegant and beautiful turning of a word from its proper signification to another. As charity is *cold*—You read *Virgil*, i. e. his writings.—The cloud drop *fatness*, &c.

Q What are figures?

A. The figures of speech render fine and beautiful: some regard the metaphors

ing of words ; as, if we *ride*, let's ride, i. e. push on ; some the *sound*, as, he is not a friend, but a fiend ; some the *order*, as the *meats* are for the belly, not the belly for *meats* ; some relate to sentences ; they change their *soil*, not *minds*, who plow the main.

2. How many parts has an oration.

A. Five ; 1st, the *exordium*, or beginning of the discourse ; 2^d, the *narration*, which consists in a recital of facts ; it ought to be true, or at least *probable*, *perspicuous*, and *concise* ; 3^d, the *confirmation* or arrangement of the proofs in an order most likely to persuade ; 4th, *confutation* ; for when the orator has confirmed his own arguments, he naturally then proceeds to confute and disprove those of his adversary. The confutation ought to be lively. 5th, the *peroration*, or, as it is sometimes called, epilogue, a recapitulation of the principal arguments. The peroration ought to excite the feeling of hatred or pity in the minds of the persons to whom the oration is addressed.

2. As

Q. As it is so desirable a thing to be able to read and speak with propriety, give me, if you please, some practicable and easy rules by which this accomplishment may be acquired?

A. The rules that appear to me best adapted to form a correct and graceful speaker, are,

I. Aim at nothing higher, till you can read distinctly and deliberately.

Learn to speak slow, all other graces
Will follow in their proper places.

II. Let your pronunciation be bold and forcible.

III. Acquire a compass and variety in the height of your voice.

IV. Pronounce your words with propriety and elegance.

V. Pronounce every word consisting of more than one syllable with its proper accent.

VI. In every sentence distinguish the more significant words by a natural, forcible, and varied emphasis.

VII. Acquire a just variety of pause and cadence.

VIII. Accompany the emotions and passions which your words express, by correspondent tones, looks and gestures.

Grammar.

Q. What is grammar *?

A. Grammar is the art of rightly expressing our thoughts by words.

Q. How many sort of words are there?

A. Nine; 1st, the article *a*; 2^d, noun *b*;
3^d,

* From the Greek word *Gramma*, a letter.

a From the Latin word *articulus*, a joint or small part.

b From *nomen*, a name; it expresses the name of any person, place or thing: as John, London, Goodness.

c From

3*d*, pronoun *c*; 4*th*, adjective *d*; 5*th*, verb *e*; 6*th*, adverb *f*; 7*th*, preposition *g*; 8*th*, conjunction *h*; 9*th*, interjection *i*. These are commonly called parts of speech.

Q. What are the rules of grammar?

A. In living languages, as the English, French, Italian, &c. use is the best rule;

c From *pro*, for, and *nomen*, a noun, from its being used instead of a noun, to avoid the too frequent repetition of the same word.

d From *ad*, to, and *jacio*, to put; and signifies the quality of any person, place, or thing; as a good man, a great city, a fine horse.

e From *verbum*, a word; a verb being the principal word in a sentence.

f From *ad*, to, and *verbum*, a verb, and expresses the quality of the verb.

g From *præ*, before, and *pono*, to place, from its being set before nouns or pronouns.

h From *con*, with, and *jungo*, to join, is a part of speech that joins words or sentences together.

i From *inter*, between, and *jacio*, to throw, is a word that expresses any sudden motion of the mind.

in

in the dead languages, as the Latin, Greek, &c. the rules are fixed.

Q. Is the study of the grammar of one's own country necessary?

A. Most certainly, yes; for a competent grammatical knowledge of our own language is the true foundation upon which all literature, properly so called, ought to be raised;—ignorant of the principles of grammar, one would be a stranger to the delicacies of the language of one's own country, and unable to express one's self on the most trifling occasions properly, correctly, or politely.

Q. What is punctuation?

A. Punctuation is the art of marking in writing the several pauses or rests between sentences, and the parts of sentences according to their proper quantity or proportion, as they are expressed in a just and accurate pronunciation.

Q. Which are the marks used for this purpose?

A. The

A. The period

The colon

The semicolon

The comma

The interrogation

The exclamation

The parenthesis

Thus marked.

.

:

;

,

?

!

()

LESSON

LESSON. VIII.

Of Poetry.

Q. **W**HAT is poetry?

A. A speaking picture, that represents in verse the life and actions of a person.

Q. What is a poem?

A. A complete and finished piece of poetry.

Q. What sort of verses are chiefly used in our poetry?

A. Those of ten, eight, and seven syllables.

Q. Give me an example of each?

A. First of ten, which is the common measure of heroic and tragic poetry.

Think of thy Father, and his face behold!

See him in me, as helpless and as old!

Tho' not so wretched: there he yields to me,

The first of men in sov'reign misery,

Thus

Thus forc'd to kneel,—thus groveling to
embrace,

The scourge and ruin of my realm and race,
Suppliant my children's murderer to im-
plore,

And kifs those hands yet reeking with their
gore.

Second of eight, which is the usual mea-
sure for short poems.

And may at last my weary age,
Find out the peaceful hermitage,
The hairy gown, and mossy cell,
Where I may sit, and nightly spell
O'er ev'ry star the sky does shew,
And ev'ry herb that sips the dew.

Third of seven, called Anacreontic, from
Anacreon, a Greek poet who wrote in verse
of this measure.

Fairest piece of well-form'd earth,
Urge not these your haughty birth.

2. Which

2. Which are the kinds of poetry most in use?

A. The kinds of poetry are various; the most considerable sorts are, 1st, *Pastoral*, that describes a shepherd's life, or that of rural nymphs and swains. 2^d, *Elegy*, is a mournful poem, or funeral song. 3^d, *Lyric Poetry*, is generally used in composition of songs and odes. 4th, *Pindaric ode* (so called from its inventor Pindar) is a sort of poetry which consists of loose and free numbers, and unequal measures. 5th, *Satire* is a free, jocular, witty and sharp poem, severely inveighing against vice and all corrupt manners and persons. 6th, *Comedy* is an agreeable imitation of the actions, humours, and customs of common life. 7th, *Tragedy*, in which the calamities of illustrious men are represented and acted over again. 8th, *Epic or Heroic Poem* is a poetical narration in verse of some illustrious and important actions of the hero celebrated in the poem; as the great exploits of Achilles in the *Iliad* of Homer. 9th, *Epigram* is an inferior

inferior sort of poem, whose peculiar character are brevity, beauty, and sharp turn of wit at the end.

As to the Acrostic, Rondeau, Echo, &c. they are such trifling pieces of art, that scarce any poet but in a merry vein, or on some jocose occasion, will ever use them.

The Languages.

Q. What is language?

A. Language is a set or collection of sounds or notes made use of by any nation or people to express the ideas of their mind, and by this means to render their thoughts intelligible to each other; and this communication of our sentiments to others is called speech, or speaking.

Q. Whence comes the great number and diversity of languages?

A. From the building of the Tower of Babel, Genesis, chap. ii.

Q. How

Q. How many original languages, or, as they are commonly called, mother tongues, are there in the world?

A. 1. The Hebrew; 2. the Greek; 3. the Latin; 4. the old Gothic.

Q. What are the properties of the Hebrew?

A. The chief properties of the Hebrew are, 1st, That its letters are twenty-two, of which the following table shews.

The

The Name.	num.*	form	Finals †.	Mimls.	Sound or Power.
Aleph	1	א			a <i>broad</i> , as in
Beth	2	ב		ב	b [war
Gimel	3	ג		ג	g <i>hard</i> , as in
Daleth	4	ד		דד	d [give, ge
He	5	ה		הה	e <i>as in</i> where
Vau	6	ו		וו	u <i>as oo</i> , w before
Zain	7	ז			z [a vowel
Heth	8	ח		ת	n <i>hard asperate</i>
Teth	9	ט		טט	th
Yod-	10	י			i <i>like ee</i>
Caph	20	כ	ך 500		k or c <i>hard</i> , a
Lamed	30	ל			l [com
Mem	40	מ	ם 600		m
Nun	50	נ	ן 700		n
Samech	60	ס		ם	sh
Oin	70	ע		צ	o <i>long</i> , as whole
Pe	80	פ	ף 800		p
Jaddi	90	צ	ץ 900		j <i>soft as in</i> tree
Kophor Quoph	100	ק			q or qu [fun
Reh	200	ר			r
Shin or Sin	300	ש			s
Tau	400	ת			t

Of these letters five are vowels, namely א ה ו י ע all the rest are consonants

* That is, numeral power or import as an arithmetical mark.

† Letters thus written at the *end* of a word

2d, That many words occur without any of the vowels, which may be pronounced as if a short *e* or *a* stood between the consonants; as דָּבָר DBR, pronounce *Deber* or *Dabar*; פָּקַד PQD or *peqed* or *paqad*. 3d, That *most* feminine nouns end in ת or ה, most others are masculine. 4th, That the plural masculine is formed by adding ים, and the plural feminine by adding וֹת to the singular. 5th, That the verbs have only *two tenses*, *past*, and *future*, and *two genders*, *masculine* and *feminine*. 6th, That Hebrew is read from the right hand to the left, and not from the left to the right, as the English and other western nations. 7th, That from the Hebrew sprang the Chaldee, the Syriac, the Arabic, the Samaritan, and the Ethiopic. The Arabic is the most copious, having a thousand different words for a sword, five hundred for a lion, and two hundred for a serpent.

Q. What are the properties of the Greek language?

A. 1st,

A. 1st*, That it has a wonderful copiousness of words. 2^d, That it is a language which abounds in compounds and derivatives. 3^d, That it enlarges and ennobles the human mind by laying open the writings of the Greek philosophers, poets, and historians.

2. What languages have had their rise from the Latin?

A. The Latin can boast a noble progeny for she gave birth to the Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and a good part of the English.

2. Which are the daughters of the Gothic tongue;

A. The two great branches, the Teutonic and Saxon languages; from whence the northern tongues, as so many grand children, had their being; as the Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, high and low Dutch, Flemish, Scots, and English.

* The Greek and Latin alphabets are purposely omitted, as they are in the hands of every school-boy.

2 W

2. Who invented that orderly arrangement of the letters which we call by the Greek name alphabet*?

A. Cadmus, King of Thebes, son of Agenor, King of Phenice, in the year of the world 1620.

The Hebrews struck with admiration at this art have called it *Dikduk*, that is, subtle invention.

The Americans when they first saw a person read from a book, believed that the paper spoke.

We are told that an Indian slave, being sent by his master with a basket of figs and a letter to a gentleman, ate on the way part of the fruit, and delivered the rest with the letter. The gentleman having read the letter, and not finding the quantity of figs it mentioned, accused the slave of eating those missing, and read him the letter; but the poor Indian protesting his innocence, cursed the paper, and accused it of false evidence.

* From *Alpha*, *Beta*, the two first Greek letters.

D

Some

Some time afterwards he was again sent on the same commission, with a letter that expressly marked the number of figs he was to deliver. On the way he again ate a part, as before, but with this precaution, that he might not be again accused, he first hid the letter under a large stone; most firmly believing, that if it did not see him eat the figs, that it could not possibly be a witness against him. But the poor miserable wretch, accused more than ever, confessed the crime, and held in admiration the virtue of the paper.

LESSON IX.

The Mathematics.

Q. **W**HAT is meant by the mathematics?

A. A science that contemplates whatever is capable of being numbered or measured. It ranks the first of all sciences, because it consists only in demonstrations.

Q. Of what use are the mathematics?

A. They open and extend our ideas, strengthen and improve our understandings, fix our attention, and by teaching a habit of just reasoning, prepare us for all other kinds of studies and important employments of life.

Q. How are the mathematics divided?

A. Into arithmetic, geometry, architecture, astronomy, and mechanics.

Arithmetic.

Q. What is arithmetic?

A. The art of computing by numbers. Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division are its principal rules, all the others arising only from different applications of them.

Q. What does addition teach?

A. To add many sums together, to know their total value.

Example.

3

more 4

more 12

—
make 19

Which is the total value of those three numbers.

Q. What is subtraction?

A. A rule teaching us to take a less number from a greater, to know what remains.

Example.

Example.

From 58

Take 49

Remains 9

Which is the number demanded.

Q. What is the use of multiplication?

A. It teaches to encrease the greater of two numbers given, as often as there are units in the less.

Example.

Multiply 15

by 4

And they will produce 60

Which is the third number required.

Q. What is the fourth rule of arithmetic?

A. Division.

Q. What does it teach?

A. To find how often one number is contained in another; or to divide any number into what parts you please.

D 3

Example.

Example.

Divide 28 by 4, the answer will be 7.

Q. What are the other rules of arithmetic?

A. Reduction, rule of three, practice, alligation, fellowship, extraction of roots, interest, &c. what relates to annuities, pensions, &c. with every thing concerning commerce, and merchant accounts.

Q. To whom is this science necessary?

A. To every person. It forms the mind, and disposes it to reason justly on all other sciences. It teaches us to set our affairs in order. In a word, arithmetic is the soul of commerce, and the mother of all the sciences.

Q. At what age may a child begin to learn to number?

A. When he is advanced in writing, and at least nine or ten years old. It is to no purpose for them to begin younger, for they will make no progress let the master's care be ever so great; because the older they are,

are, the more they are able to reflect with judgment.

Commerce.

Q. What is commerce?

A. The art of exchanging one thing for another, or buying or selling merchandise, &c. with an intention to gain.

Q. Has commerce been a long time carried on?

A. It appears to be as ancient as the world. At first it consisted in nothing more than in the exchange of things necessary for life, as it is at present practised on the coasts of *Siberia*, *Norwegian Lapland*, and *Muscovite Lapland*; amongst the different nations of *Africa* and *Asia*, and almost all of *America*.

Q. Was money, which we find of such infinite utility in commerce, in use at that time?

A. Not at all; it was in succeeding ages that it came into use.

Q. What nations have made themselves most famous by their commerce?

A. The Phenicians, Egyptians, Carthaginians, Athenians, Rhodians, Romans, Gauls, and Flemings; at present the English, Dutch, Venitians and Genoese carry on the most extensive commerce.

Geometry.

Q. What is geometry?

A. A science teaching the mensuration of quantity in all its extents, length, breadth, and thickness.

Q. What is the meaning of the word geometry?

A. It is derived from the Greek, and signifies the art of measuring the earth. It had its rise among the Egyptians, who were, in a manner, compelled to invent it to remedy the disorders occasioned in their lands

by

by the annual overflowings of the river Nile, which defaced every boundary.

Q. How is quantity distinguished?

A. Into lines, superficies, and solids.

Q. What is a line?

A. A line is formed by the motion of a point; and therefore is one dimension only, i. e. length.

Q. How is a superficies generated?

A. By the motion of a line, and so hath two dimensions, i. e. length and breadth.

Q. How is a solid produced?

A. By the motion of a superficies, and hath three dimensions, length, breadth, and thickness.

Q. How is geometry divided?

A. Into three principal parts:

1. *Altimery*, which is applied to the measuring all heights, accessible or inaccessible.
2. *Planimetry*, which teaches the mensuration of surfaces in square measures, such as square miles, yards, feet, inches, &c.

D 5

3. *Stereometry*,

3. *Sterdometry*, which is the mensuration of all kinds of solid bodies in solid, or cubic measures, as cubic feet, cubic inches, &c. This also includes *gauging*, or the art of finding the contents of any cask or vessel, or the quantity of liquid contained in them; also timber measure superficial and solid.

LESSON X.

Architecture.

2. **W**HAT is architecture?

A. The art of building or raising all kinds of edifices; as houses, churches, palaces, &c.

2. How is architecture distinguished?

A. Into three sorts;—civil, military, and naval.

2. In what consists civil architecture?

A. In external ornaments and internal conveniences.

2. What are the orders of civil architecture?

A. They are generally reckoned five; 1. The Tuscan; 2. The Doric; 3. The Ionic; 4. The Corinthian; and 5. The Composite. To these may be added the Gothic, which is an old method of building, still preserved in the construction of almost all cathedral

cathedral churches. These orders take their names from the people who invented them.

Q. What are the qualifications necessary for a good architect?

A. He ought to understand drawing, geometry, optics, arithmetic, history and fable.

Q. In what consists military architecture, called fortification?

A. In constructing such works about a town, &c. as will enable a small number of men within, to withstand, for a considerable time, the assaults of a greater number without. A town fortified is called a *fortress*.

Q. What is naval architecture?

A. The art of constructing vessels, whether for the service of war or commerce.

Painting.

Q. What is painting?

A. An

A. An art teaching by drawing and the application of colours, to represent all sorts of objects.

Q. What are the most esteemed paintings?

A. Those representing historical events.

Q. How many sorts of paintings are there?

A. Five; 1. In oil; 2. In Fresco; 3. In water-colours; 4. On glass; and 5. In enamel; to which may be added miniature and pastel. Painting in oil was unknown to the ancients. This art has received the greatest advantage from this discovery.

Q. What are the qualifications of an excellent painter?

A. He ought to understand drawing in its highest perfection. He ought to have some knowledge of anatomy, and geometry. He ought to read a great deal, to have great judgment and patience: he ought to be sober and fond of his art.

Sculpture.

Sculpture.

Q. What is sculpture?

A. The art of carving, or hewing stone into images. Every thing that is engraved or worked in relieve makes a part of this art.

Its antiquity appears from many places of the holy scripture, from the idols of Laban that Rachel carried off, and by the golden calf set up by the Israelites in the desert.

Optics.

Q. What is optics?

A. Optics is the science of vision, whether natural, as performed in the eye, or artificial, as effected by instruments.

Q. How is vision produced?

A. Vision, or the sense of sight, is in all cases produced by the action of the rays of light upon the fine expansion of the optic nerve in the eye, called the *retina*.

Q. Pray

Q. Pray what do you call light?

A. That quality of certain bodies, whereby they become visible to us, and render others so.

Q. Is not the sun the fountain of light?

A. Yes; but in what manner that great fiery mass is fed, with continued fuel to keep up his force, is a question equally useless and impossible to be resolved; whether comets travel from other systems with a provision of this nature, or whether the ethereal vapours come from all parts with their supply, is not worth enquiring after. He that made the comet sweep through immeasurable tracts and space, could, with equal ease, give permanent light and fire to the sun.

Q. Though it appears a task beyond the reach of human abilities to calculate exactly how long a ray of light is upon its journey, in travelling from the sun to enlighten our hemisphere, yet has it not been attempted?

A. Yes; and found to be seven minutes, though it is nearly a distance of seventy millions

millions of miles ; consequently light travels at the rate of a hundred and fifty thousand miles in a single second, which is upwards of a million times swifter than a ball from the mouth of a cannon.

Mechanics.

Q. What is mechanics ?

A. That science which teaches the nature and laws of motion, the action and force of moving bodies ; and the construction and effects of all those machines and engines which go by the name of mechanic powers.

Q. What is motion ?

A. A continual and successive change of place.

Q. What is rest ?

A. The continuance of a body in the same place for any time.

Q. Pray explain what is meant by a mechanic power ?

A. Any machine or engine by which a man can raise a greater weight, or overcome

come a greater resistance than he could do by his natural strength without it.

2. How many mechanic powers are there?

A. They are said to be six in number, namely, the *lever*, by which we lift weights much greater than our strength unassisted could overcome: the *axle*, and *wheel*, by which we can lift them to greater heights: the *pull* lifts them higher still: the *screw*, which, if it could move without friction, would give him greater force than any of the rest: the *wedge*, used in cleaving wood, &c. and the *inclined plane*, by which heavy bodies are rolled up with greater ease. And of these all the most compound engines now consist, as clocks, watches, orreries, most sorts of water engines, with an infinite variety of others.

LESSON

LESSON XI.

Of Division of Time, or Chronology.

“A little chronology will be highly useful.” KNOW.

Q. WHAT is chronology?

A. A science that teaches the method of measuring time, and distinguishing its parts.

Q. What is time?

A. Time is the duration of things: its parts are centuries, years, months, weeks, days, hours, minutes, seconds, &c. and by these, the larger and lesser intervals of time are estimated and measured.

Q. What is a century?

A. Century or age is a course of a hundred years.

Q. What is a year?

A. A space of twelve months, which is the time the sun takes in passing through the twelve signs of the zodiac.

Q. What

Q. What is the zodiac ?

A. A circle shewing the earth's annual, or yearly, path through the heavens. On this circle are marked the twelve signs, which are numbers of stars reduced by the fancy of men into the forms of animals, and may be described in order thus :

The *ram*, the *bull*, the *heavenly twins*,
And next the *crab*, the *lion* shines,
The *virgin* and the *scales* :
The *scorpion*, *archer*, and *sea goat*,
The man that holds the *water pot*,
And *fish* with glittering tails.

Q. From what is said of the patriarchs having lived so many centuries, and some even to the age of nine hundred years, may we not believe that the years were then shorter than at present ?

A. No ; For we learn from Moses that the year consisted then, as now, of twelve months. In his history of the deluge, he tells us, that after the rains, which began the

the seventeenth day of the second month, had fallen upon the earth for the space of forty days and nights, it was only in the seventh month that the ark, which floated upon the waters, rested upon the mountains of Arminia, and in the tenth that land began to appear.

Q. What is a month?

A. A month is just the time the moon is going round the earth, which revolution she performs in twenty-seven days, seven hours, and forty-three minutes; so that there are thirteen lunar months in a year, though, for conveniency and a greater regularity, they are made but twelve in our almanacks, by adding a greater number of days to each month than it really contains.

Q. How many weeks are there in a year?

A. Fifty-two.

Q. How many days are there in a week?

A. Always seven.

Q. How are they named?

A. Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. To these

These days the Pagans gave the names of the sun, moon, and planets: to the first the name of the sun, to the second of the moon, to the third of Mars, to the fourth of Mercury, to the fifth of Jupiter, to the sixth of Venus, and to the seventh of Saturn.

Q. Do all nations reckon them in the same order?

A. No; the Christians count from Sunday, in memory of the resurrection of our Saviour, the Jews from Saturday, the Mahometans from Friday.

Q. What is a day?

A. A day is either artificial or natural. The natural day contains twenty-four hours; the artificial day from sun's rise to sun set.

Q. How is the natural day divided?

A. Into two parts, night and day, properly so called.

Q. Is there no other division of the natural day?

A. Yes; into morning, noon, evening, and midnight.

Q. When

Q. When do we begin the day?

A. The English, French, Dutch, Germans, Spaniards, Portugueze, and Egyptians begin the day at midnight; the ancient Greeks and Jews, with the modern Italians and Chinese begin it at sun setting, and the ancient Babylonians, Persians, Syrians, with the modern Greeks, at sun-rising.

Q. What is an hour?

A. An hour is the 24th part of a natural day, as shewn by clocks and watches. It is divided into sixty equal parts called seconds, and these again into sixty equal parts called thirds.

Q. What is meant by the seasons of the year?

A. The changes and varieties that happen in nature by the yearly revolution of the earth round the sun.

Q. How many are there?

A. Four.

Q. How are they called?

A. Spring, summer, autumn, and winter.

Q. How long does each season continue?

A. Three

A. Three months.

Q. When does spring begin?

A. On the 21st of March.

Q. When does summer begin?

A. On the 21st of June.

Q. When does autumn begin?

A. On the 23d of September.

Q. When does winter begin?

A. On the 21st of December.

Q. When is the length of the day and night equal?

A. This happens twice every year, once on the 21st of March, and again on the 21st of September. Both these times are called the equinoxes.

Q. How do we call the light that appears before the rising and after the setting of the sun?

A. The light seen before the sun is called Aurora, and after he sets, the twilight.

Q. What do we call the dog days?

A. Those intensely hot days between the 19th of July, and the 28th of August, because the star called the canicular or the

the great dog star, during that time rises and sets with the sun.

Q. When is the longest day?

A. On the 21st of June, at the beginning of summer, after which they begin gradually to decrease.

Q. When is the shortest day?

A. The 21st of December at the beginning of winter, after which they begin gradually to encrease.

Q. Is this change the same through every part of the earth?

A. No; it is more or less according as the country is situated with respect to the course of the sun. There is, for example, some countries where the length of the day and night is exactly the same, others where the night, during the summer season, is only an hour, others where the night continues always six months, and the day consequently as many. This variety in the length of the day and night is illustrated by the globe.

Q. What

Q. What other name is given to the 21st of June?

A. The summer solstice.

Q. And to the 21st of December?

A. The winter solstice.

Q. What are the names of the twelve months in their order?

A. January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December.

Q. How many days does each of these months contain?

A. Seven have thirty-one days, January, March, May, July, August, October, and December. Four have thirty days, April, June, September, and November, and one alone, February, which has twenty-eight or twenty-nine.

According to these verses.

Thirty days hath September,
April, June, and November,
February twenty-eight alone,
All the rest hath thirty-one;

E

But

But when leap year comes that time
Hath February twenty-nine.

Q. How did the Romans divide their month?

A. Into calends, nones, and ides; calling the first day of every month calends.

Q. How many days are in a year?

A. Three hundred and sixty-five.

Q. Is this number always the same?

A. No; It changes every four years, and the fourth year, which is called Bissextile or leap year, has always one day more.

Q. How comes this change?

A. Every year consists of 6 hours over the 365 days. These 6 hours in four years amount to one whole day, which is then added at the end of February; on this account it is that this month has sometimes twenty-nine days.

Q. Did the Romans reckon their months like us?

A. No; they had first only ten, afterwards they added two, but they always began their year at March.

Q. Wh

Q. Who were the two great reformers of the Calendar?

A. Julius Cæsar and Pope Gregory XIII.

Q. What is an Olympiad?

A. A space of four years. The ancient Greeks reckoned in this manner, because they celebrated at the beginning of every fifth year their games, which were contests in all the manly exercises, such as wrestling, boxing, running, chariot races, &c. in a plain near the town of Olympias; for this reason they were called Olympiads. They were first instituted by Hercules in honor of Jupiter, 774 years before Christ.

Q. What is an Epoch?

A. An Epoch is a certain point of time from which historians begin to reckon, as the creation of the world, the building of Rome, the birth of Christ, the destruction of Jerusalem, &c. It also remarks the time from one remarkable event to another, It is, for example, an epoch from the creation of the world to the deluge, &c.

Q. What is a lustrum?

E 2

A. A

A. A space of five years, used only by the Roman poets.

Q. What is a jubilee?

A. A public festivity.

Q. What is an indiction?

A. A revolution of fifteen years, used only by the Romans for indicating the times of certain payments made by the subjects to the republic. It was established by Constantine in the year 312.

Note. According to what aera we reckon by, we date the time of every memorable transaction, as,

A. M. i. e. *anno mundi*, the year of the world.

A. D. i. e. *Anno Domini*, the year of our Lord.

Ab U. C. i. e. *ab Urbe condita*, from the building of the city of Rome, and so of the other epochs.

For example, we say,

Noah's flood happened *A. M.* 1656
The

The kings were expelled, and Consular government established at Rome. } ab U. C. 244

Charlemagne was crowned emperor of the west. } A. D. 800.

LESSON XII.

Cosmography, or the Universe.

Q. WHAT is cosmography?

A. A description of the world.

Q. What do we understand by the world?

A. The heavens and the earth, in a word, the whole universe.

Q. How is cosmography divided?

A. Into two parts; astronomy and geography.

Q. What is the use of astronomy?

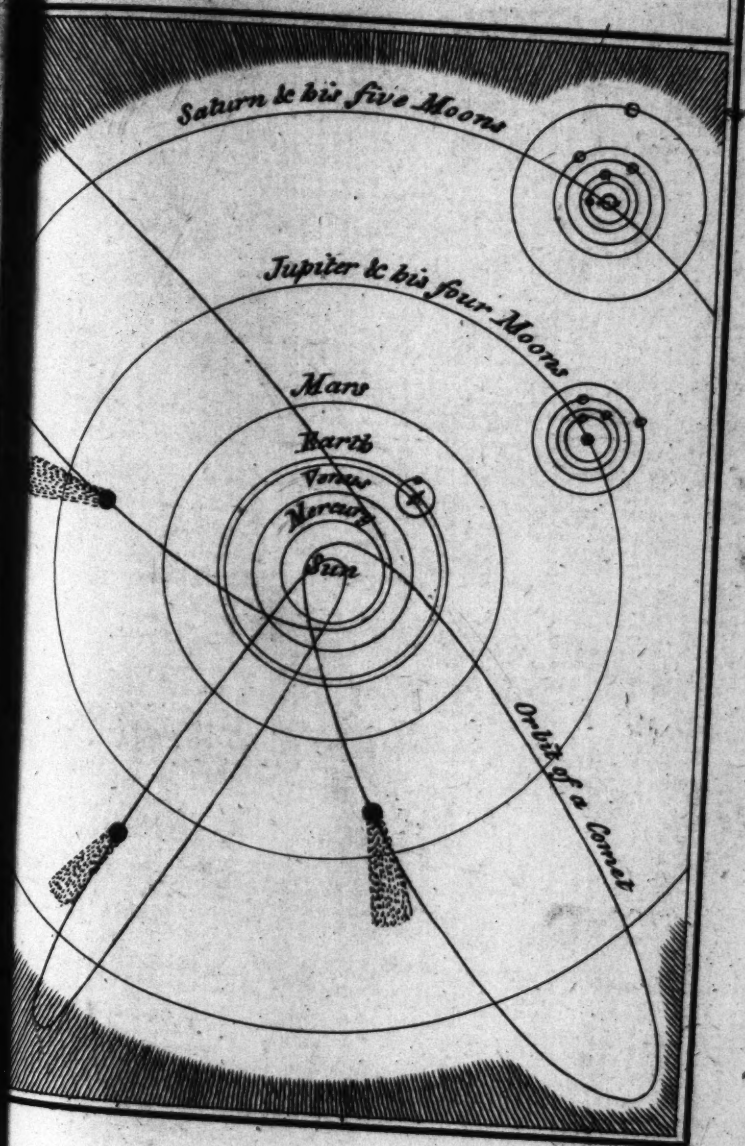
A. It gives us the knowledge of the heavenly bodies, and teaches us from the regularity of their motions since their creation by God, that there is an infinite power who directs their courses according to the order he has established.

Q. How is this science most easily acquired?

A. As

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The Solar System.



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A. As the figure of the world is round, we make use of two globes, one called the celestial, upon whose surface is painted the stars reduced to constellations with the circles of the sphere; and the other the terrestrial, which shews us upon its surface a description of the land and water.

2. What do you call the heavens?

A. Those regions or fields of air we see lying all around us above the atmosphere in which are situated all the shining bodies, the sun, moon, planets, and stars.

2. What is the atmosphere?

A. A thin fluid mass of matter which surrounds the earth. Its use is not only to suspend the clouds, furnish winds and rain, and serves for the common purposes of breathing, but is also the cause of the morning and evening twilight, and all the glory and brightness of the firmament. Its height is about twenty-seven or twenty-eight miles. We may justly say that the atmosphere serves as a shell or covering to the earth?

E 4

2. What

Q. What is the sun?

A. That glorious luminary created by God as the source of light and heat to the world.

Q. Is the nature of the sun known.

A. No; some imagine it to be a common fire, continually supplied with globules of a combustible matter, and therefore have thought it to be the place of hell; others say that it is an elementary fire, which subsists without any kind of nourishment.

Q. Is the sun larger than the earth?

A. Yes; infinitely. Some astronomers believe it to be a million of times as large. It appears so very small on account of its distance, which is so very great, that a cannon ball would be twenty-five years coming from thence to the earth, even if it flew as swift as it does when it is first discharged from the mouth of the cannon.

Q. Does the sun move, or is he always fixed?

A. It was formerly supposed that he moved, because he seemed so to do.—But it

is now demonstrated that he always remains fixed in the same place, and that it is the earth that moves round about him.

Q. Does the sun afford us any other benefit, but that of light?

A. Yes; it ripens the fruits of the earth by its heat.

Q. Why is not the sun always visible after it rises?

A. A thick cloud will sometimes conceal it from our view, by interrupting its rays. Of this one may be easily convinced: if we stand upon the top of a high mountain above the clouds, the sun will then be visible, but totally hid from those in the valley.

Q. What is the moon?

A. A large round globe like our earth in matter and form, designed to enlighten us by night.

Q. Is the moon a luminary like the sun?

A. No; it is a dark opaque body, and receives all the light she shines with from

the sun, and by reflection conveys it to us in the sun's absence.

Q. How do we call the different degrees of light with which she shines?

A. Her phases. At NEW moon she is between the sun and the earth, and her enlightened parts are hid or turned from us, when FULL we see all her enlightened side, and she appears horned, half or a gibbous moon when a little part of her light turns towards us.

Q. What is the reason why some parts of the moon's face looks dusky, and others light?

A. The bright parts of the moon's body, are the highest parts of land, which reflect the light of the sun, as hills, mountains, promontories, islands, &c. and the darker parts of the moon are caverns, deep pits, and places which reflect not the sun's light so strongly as others.

Q. Is the moon larger than the earth?

A. No; the earth is at least fifty times bigger than the moon.

Q. What

Q. What is its distance from the earth?

A. It is not exactly known, but supposed to be about two hundred and forty thousand miles.

Q. What influence has the moon?

A. She is said to be the cause of the tides.

Q. How happens that?

A. By attracting the waters of the sea, she raises them higher.

Q. What else is observable of the moon?

A. That she is inhabited; for to what end else can serve the distribution of land and water, mountains and vallies, but, as on our earth, to nourish and sustain men, beasts and vegetables.

Q. How are the stars distinguished?

A. Into *fixed* stars, and *planets* or moving stars.

Q. What is a planet?

A. A star that has a periodical and regular motion.

Q. How many planets are there?

A. Six;

A. Six; their names are, 1st, Mercury, 2d, Venus, 3d, Earth, 4th, Mars, 5th, Jupiter, 6th, Saturn, which may be remembered in their order by these verses:

First Mercury, Venus, Earth, than with
her moon,

Mars, Jove, four, Saturn five, move
round the sun.

Q. In what form or manner do these planets move?

A. They all in different stated periods of time perform their motion round the sun from west to east in orbits nearly circular.

Q. Have all the planets moons attendant upon them like our earth?

Q. No; such only of the planets as are farthest from the sun, and therefore enjoy least of his light, have that deficiency made up by several moons, which constantly accompany and revolve about them, as our moon revolves about our earth. Saturn, the remotest planet, has five, and Jupiter has four, which was first discovered by the telescope, nor are they to be seen without

out it. These moons are generally called fatellites, or secondary planets.

Q. What is a comet?

A. Comets are large solid bodies with long transparent trains or tails, issuing from that side which is turned away from the sun.

Q. Does the appearance of a comet foretell any great event?

A. No; it was formerly supposed they did, but it was mere superstition.

Q. What is the earth?

A. The earth is the globe we inhabit.

Q. How large is it?

A. Its circumference is about twenty-five thousand miles.

Q. What is its true figure?

A. Though we often call it a globe, yet it is by no means perfectly round, but widened out at the equator, and flattened at both poles like a turnip; or if you are fonder of a hard name, its figure may be called an oblate spheroid.

Q. Is it always fixed, or does it move?

A. It

A. It moves constantly round the sun.

Q. How is this motion performed?

A. Two ways : the earth turns round its axis every twenty-four hours, which alternately causes day and night, as either side is turned toward, or from the sun, whilst it revolves round that luminary in three hundred and sixty-five days, six hours, which periodical revolution produces the four seasons of the year. This double motion of the earth may be compared to a coach turning round in a court yard—the wheels go round their own axis, at the same time they move round the yard. It travels at the rate of fifty-eight thousand miles every hour, which is one hundred and twenty times swifter than a cannon-ball, and by its rapid motion on its axis the inhabitants of London are carried five hundred and eighty miles every hour.

Q. What is an eclipse?

A. An eclipse is nothing but a total or partial privation of the light of the sun or moon.

Q. How

Q. How many sorts of eclipses are there?

A. Two, one of the sun, the other of the moon.

Q. When does an eclipse of the sun happen?

A. When the moon comes between the sun and the earth. In this position she will wholly or partly intercept the rays of the sun, which is then said to undergo an eclipse. When this eclipse is total, the darkness is so great that the stars will appear.

Q. What is the cause of the eclipse of the moon?

A. By the position of the earth between the moon and the sun, it is easy to be conceived that the moon having no light of her own, when the rays of the sun are intercepted, she will appear dark or dusky.

An eclipse of the *sun* never happens but at a new moon, nor one of the *moon* but when she is full.

LESSON

LESSON XIII.

Of Geography.

Totam licet animis, tanquam oculis lustrare terram mariaque omnia.

“ One may survey the whole earth and all the seas
“ that surround it, in the mind, just as they are
“ presented to the eye.”

CICERO.

Q. WHAT is geography?

A. A description of the earth.

Q. How is the earth divided?

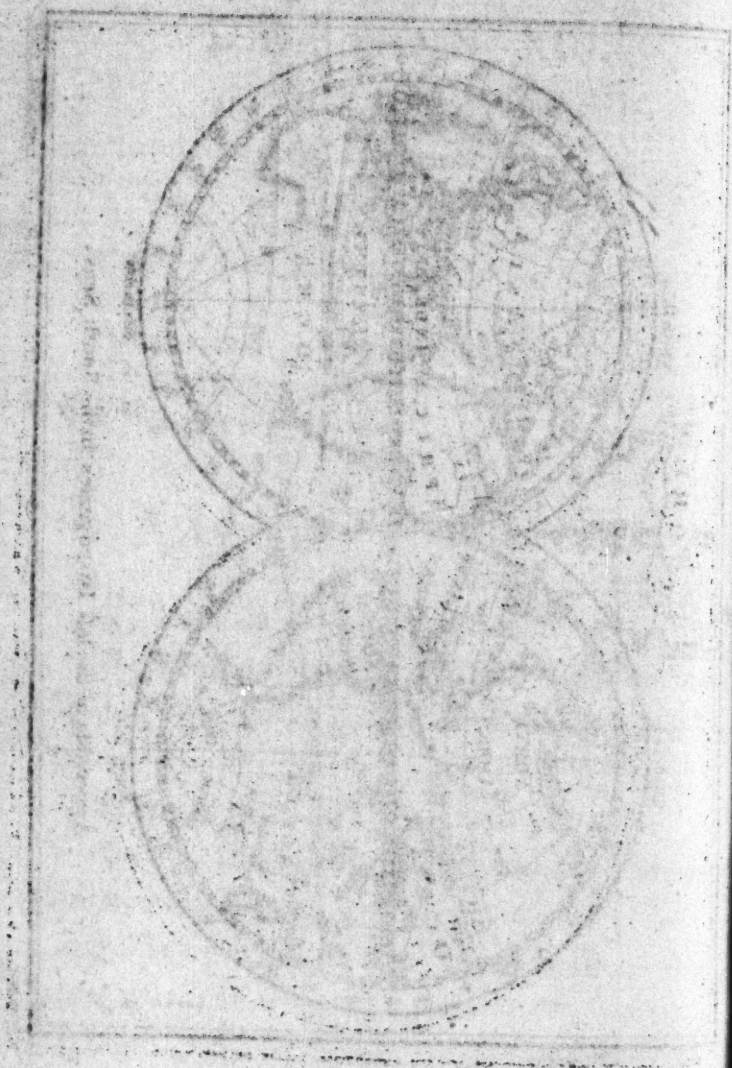
A. Into four parts; 1st, Europe, we inhabit; 2d, Asia; 3d, Africa; 4th, America.

Q. By whom was the earth peopled?

A. By the children of Noah,—*Shem, Ham, and Japhet.*

Q. Why is America often called the new world?

A. Because



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A. Because it was not discovered till about the end of the fifteenth century, not quite three hundred years ago.

Q. By whom was America discovered?

A. By Christopher Columbus, sent by Ferdinand king of Spain.

Q. Why then is it called America?

A. Because one named *Americus Vesputius*, being sent after Columbus, discovered a greater part of the continent. It is named also the West Indies, to distinguish it from the East Indies in Asia.

Q. Which is the largest of these four parts?

A. America.

Q. Which has most mines of gold and silver?

A. The same.

Q. Which of them is the richest in natural productions?

A. Asia. It is this quarter that furnishes our spices.

Q. And where is the heat of the sun most intense?

A. Africa,

A. Africa, which produces negroes, a race of people quite black, having flat noses, thick lips, and hair like wool.

Q. And which is that most peopled, and where the sciences are most cultivated?

A. Europe, though the smallest of the four.

Q. How are the four parts of the world distinguished?

A. From the time of Charles the Great they have been distinguished by the names of east, west, north, and south.

Q. How do we know where to find those parts?

A. Only by turning the back to the rising sun, and on the left hand will be the south, on the right hand the north, behind the east, and directly opposite will be the west.

Q. How are the winds that blow from these four quarters named?

A. They are called in the same order; 1st, the East-wind; 2d, West-wind; 3d, North-wind; and 4th, South-wind.

Q. What

Q. What is a sea?

A. A sea is a large collection of salt water.

Q. Whence is it that the sea water is charged with saltness, while that of rivers is mild, fresh, and sweet, and fit for human purposes?

A. It is supposed to arise from great beds of salt lying at the bottom of the ocean.

Q. Is it necessary that this water should be salt?

A. Yes; for the water of the sea not flowing like that of a river, would be apt to corrupt and stink like a filthy lake, was it not for its saltness, which preserves it pure and sweet.

Q. How are the seas distinguished?

A. They are generally distinguished by their situation. Thus we say the South Sea, the North Sea, the British Sea, and the Irish Sea, &c. The general term for a large extensive sea is an ocean; as the Atlantic Ocean, between Europe and America, the Indian Ocean in the East Indies.

Q. What

Q. What is a strait?

A. A narrow passage of water, inclosed by two shores, as the Straits of Dover, between the British Channel and the German sea, &c.

Q. What is a continent?

A. A large quantity of land, containing whole countries and kingdoms, and that is not surrounded by the sea, such are Europe, Asia, Africa, and America.

Q. What is a gulph?

A. A gulph is a part of the sea that runs in between land; if it be very large, it is rather called an inland sea.

Q. What is an isthmus?

A. A narrow neck of land between two seas, joining a peninsula to the continent; as the Isthmus of Darien, or Panama, which joins North to South America.

Q. What is a promontory?

A. A promontory is a high land that juts into the sea; it is often called a cape, as the Cape of Good Hope in the south of Africa.

Q. What

Q. What is an island?

A. An island is a part of the earth that is surrounded by the sea or other water, as Great Britain, Ireland, Sicily, &c. there are also islands in rivers.

Q. What is a peninsula, or almost an island?

A. A part of land that is almost surrounded by the sea; as the *Morea*, which joins to Greece.

Q. What is a lake?

A. A lake is a large extent of water inclosed all round with land that never dries, and that has no current, as the Caspian Lake in Asia.

Q. From whence do rivers and brooks derive their stores?

A. A river is a stream of fresh water, formed from many springs, which, running down by the vallies between the ridges of the hills, and coming to unite from little rivulets or brooks; many of these again meeting in one common valley, and arriving at the plain become a river, the magnitude of which

which is generally in proportion to the greatness of the mountain, from whence its waters descend.

Q. What are fountains or springs?

A. Fountains or springs are those waters that issue from the sides of hills and mountains, where they form natural pools or basons, which overflowing, the waters descend in rivulets, and, as before observed, give rise to rivers.

Q. What is a pond?

A. A quantity of water flowing from a river, or some other source, and confined by a bank for the preservation of fish.

Q. What is a marsh?

A. A very shallow, but stagnant water that is often dried by the heat of the sun.

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LESSON XIV.

Sequel of Geography.

2. **H**OW is the whole extent of the land divided?

A. Into an infinite number of countries or sovereignties.

2. How many sorts of governments are there in Europe?

A. *Seven*; empires, kingdoms, the ecclesiastical state, republics, electorates, dukedoms, and principalities.

2. How many empires are there?

A. *Three*; the empire of Germany, the Ottoman or Turkish empire, and the empire of Russia.

2. How was the empire of Germany formerly called?

A. The Roman empire.

2. Why so?

A. Because

A. Because its head is a succession of the ancient Roman emperors in the western empires.

Q. Is this empire as considerable now as formerly?

A. No; it has been extremely weakened by the many provinces that have been detached from it, and are become sovereignties themselves.

Q. What is remarkable of the Ottoman empire?

A. That the greatest part of it is situated in Asia, and its head is a successor of the ancient Roman emperors in the east.

Q. Why is this distinction made between the eastern and western empires?

A. For this reason, when the Romans had conquered almost the whole earth, and formed the fourth monarchy, one of their emperors, Theodosius the Great, ordered, that after his death, the empire should be parted between his two sons, Arcadius and Honorius. The first had the eastern part of the empire, and continued his residence

at Constantinople. The second had the western part. This event happened about the end of the fourth century.

Q. What have you to remark of the empire of Russia?

A. It is only fifty or sixty years ago that this country has been erected into an empire, and its princes have been successively acknowledged emperors by the other European monarchs.

Q. What title had these princes before?

A. They had, and still keep, the name of Tzar, or Czar, which signifies Great Duke or King.

Q. How many kingdoms are there in Europe?

A. Twelve; Portugal, Spain, France, England, the two Sicilies, Sardinia, Sweden, Denmark, Poland, Prussia, Hungary, Bohemia.

Q. What is the ecclesiastical state?

A. A part of Italy under the dominion of the Pope.

Q. How many republics are there?

F

A. Seven;

A. Seven; 1st, Holland, 2d, Venice, 3d, Genoa, 4th, Lucca, 5th, Ragusa, 6th, Switzerland, and 7th, Geneva.

Q. Are *they* also independant states like monarchies?

A. Yes; except Ragusa, which is under the protection of the Turks, and pays tribute to them.

Q. How many electorates are there?

A. Nine; three ecclesiastical, the Archbishop of Mentz, the Archbishop of Treves, and the Archbishop of Cologne;—six secular, the King of Bohemia, the Dukes of Bavaria and Saxony, the Prince Palatinate, the Marquis of Brandenburg, now King of Prussia, and the Duke of Brunswick-Hanover.

Q. Where are they situated?

A. All in Germany, except the electorate of Bohemia, which is an independant kingdom.

Q. Are they all sovereign states?

A. Yes; but held by fief of the emperor and empire.

Q. How

Q. How many dukedoms are there?

A. They are too numerous to be reckoned up here.

Q. How are they divided?

A. Into arch-dukedoms, grand-dukedoms, dukedoms, properly so called;—Austria is the only arch-dukedom;—the grand-dukedoms are, Lithuania, united to Poland, Florence to Tuscany in Italy.—The principal dukedoms are Lorrain, Courland, Prussia, Milan, Savoy, Parma, Modena, &c. In Germany, those of Saxony, Mecklenburg, Holstein, Wentemburg, &c.

Q. What is a principality?

A. A principality, like a dukedom, is a small sovereignty.—There are a great many of them, and they are generally dependant on some more considerable state. In Germany there are two sorts, one ecclesiastical, the other secular; the former are arch-bishops, bishops, or abbots:—the latter are, margraves, land-graves, or principalities, properly so called.

Q. What more is to be remarked of Germany?

A. Two things; 1st, that it is divided into circles, and 2d, that there are in it an infinite number of free and imperial towns.

Q. What is a circle?

A. A certain extent of country.

Q. How are they called?

A. 1st, Austria, 2d, Suabia, 3d, Bavaria, 4th, Franconia, 5th, Upper Saxony, 6th, Lower Saxony, 7th, Westphalia, 8th, Lower Rhine, 9th, Upper Rhine, and 10th, Burgundy, now united to the crown of France.

Q. What is a free and imperial town?

A. Free cities are little sovereign states, but have some dependance upon the emperor and empire.—The principal are Nuremberg, Augsbourg, Ratisbonne, Hamburg, Francfort, Cologne, &c.

Q. What are the capital cities of the three empires?

A. The capital of Germany is Vienna; of Turkey, Constantinople; of Russia, Petersburg.

Q. What

Q. What are the capital cities of the twelve kingdoms ?

A. The capital of the kingdom of Portugal is *Lisbon*; of Spain, *Madrid*; of France, *Paris*; of England, *London*; of the two Sicilies, *Naples*; of Sardinia, *Cagliari*; of Sweden, *Stockholm*; of Denmark, *Copenhagen*; of Poland, *Cracow*; of Prussia, *Koningsburg*; of Hungary, *Buda*; and of Bohemia, *Prague*.

Q. What is the capital town of the ecclesiastical state ?

A. *Rome*, which was formerly the capital of the Roman empire.

Q. What are the capital towns of the seven republics ?

A. *Amsterdam* is the capital of Holland, and *Zurich* of Switzerland; the others have the same name as the republics themselves.

Q. And the capitals of the electorates ?

A. *Meutz* is the capital of the electorate of the same name, *Treves* of the electorate of the same name, *Bonn* of Cologne, *Prague* of Bohemia, *Munich* of Bavaria, *Dresden* of Saxony,

Saxony, *Menheim* of the palatinate, *Berlin* of Brandenburg, and *Hanover* of Brunf-wick.

Q. What are the principal rivers in Europe?

A. The *Dwina* and the *Tanais* in Russia; the *Danube*, the *Rhine*, and the *Elbe* in Germany; the *Seine*, the *Rhone*, and the *Garonne* in France; the *Meuse* in the Low Countries; the *Vistula* in Poland; the *Thames* in England; the *Tagus*, the *Ebro*, and the *Duro* in Spain and Portugal; and the *Po* in Italy.

Q. What are the chief islands of Europe?

A. Great Britain and Ireland in the north, in the Mediterranean sea are *Yvica*, *Majorca*, and *Minorca*, subject to Spain. *Corfica* was formerly subject to Geneva, but became a free state under the brave *Paoli*, who has since been driven out of his territories by the French, who are now masters of the island; *Sardinia* subject to its own king,
and

and Sicily governed by a viceroy under the king of Naples, to whom the island belongs. The islands of the Archipelago, with Candia, own the Grand Turk for their master; the islands of the Baltic, the Adriatic, and Ionian seas are not worth your notice.

Q. How is *Asia* divided?

A. Into the kingdoms of Tartary, China, from whence we have great quantities of china ware and raw silk, India, Persia, Indostan, and Turkey in Asia.

Q. What are the principal islands in this quarter?

A. The islands in Asia are the Marian, or Ladrone islands, Formoso and the Philipines in the Eastern Ocean; the Moluccas, and the spice islands, Celebes, Borneo, Java, Sumatra, Ceylon, the Maldives, &c. in the Indian Ocean; Cyprus, Rhodes, Lesbos, or Metelane, Chios, or Scio, Samos, Coos, and a few others of less note on the coasts of Asia and in the Mediterranean.

Q. What is this quarter most famous for?

F 4

A. Its

A. Its having been the residence of our first parents, and giving birth to our blessed Saviour.

Q. What are the manners of its inhabitants?

A. In general they are gross, ignorant, and lazy. They love only good cheer and their pleasures. They are extremely jealous of their wives, and cruel to their slaves.

Q. What are the chief kingdoms of Africa?

A. Egypt, Barbary, Morocco, Zaara, or the Great Desert, Negroland, Ethiopia, and Guinea, where ships go yearly to purchase slaves.

Q. Are the islands of Africa considerable?

A. Yes; but the following are the principal ones, Madagascar the largest, called also St. Lawrence, the inhabitants black, wild, savage, naked, and under no particular governor; the small islands of Cape Verd, the Canary islands, the Madeiras,
noted

noted for excellent wines, the Guinea isles, and the isles Ascension and St. Helena, with others of lesser note in the Ethiopic sea.

Q. What character have the people?

A. The inhabitants are for the most part tawny, and in some parts quite black; they have always been gross idolaters, worshipping the stars, fire, and planets; they are accused of feeding on human flesh.

Q. What are the divisions of North America?

A. The chief kingdoms, states, and colonies in North America are, Old Mexico, or New Spain, New Mexico or Granada, and Florida, belonging to Spain. New Scotland, New Britain or Esquimaux, and Canada, to the English. New Hampshire, Massachusetts's Bay, Rhode Island, Providence, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, compose the United States.

Q. What are the islands of North America?

A. The islands belonging to Great Britain are Newfoundland, Jamaica, St. Christopher's,

pher's, vulgarly called St. Kitt's, Antigua, Dominica, Barbadoes, the Grenades, Barbuda, Nevis and Montserrat, St. Vincent's, and, except Newfoundland, these islands are distinguished by the general name of the Caribbee isles.

The islands belonging to Spain, are Cuba, Hispaniola, or St. Domingo, part belonging to the French, and part to the Spaniards; Porto-Rico, the Virgin Isles, Trinidad, and Margareta. Martinique, Guadalope, St. Lucia, and Tobago, belonging to the French.

Q. How is South America divided?

A. Into Terra Firma, Peru belonging to the Spaniards, the country of the Amazonas but little known, the Brasils belonging to the Portuguese, Chili, and Patagonia lately discovered.

Q. Which are the chief islands of South America?

A. Terra del Fuego, of which we have very little knowledge; Chiloe, near the coast of Chili, on which the Spaniards have a town named Castro; Juan Fernandez off the coast of Chili, a pleasant fruitful island; the

the Gallapagos, a cluster of islands lying under the equator off the coast of Peru.

2. What is the general character of the natives of America?

A. They are, generally, of a brown complexion, the few that are white stain themselves of a red or copper colour, and some with streaks of blue.—They are fond of adorning themselves with strings of beads and shells about their necks, and rings in their ears and noses;—they scalp their prisoners, and sometimes, it is said, broil and eat them.

LESSON

LESSON XV.

Of History.

Q. **W**HAT is history?

A. History is an account or relation of any thing that has been done.

Q. How is history divided?

A. Into sacred and prophane, ancient and modern.

Q. What is sacred history?

A. Sacred history is the history of the church of God, under the Old and New Testament. The Old Testament contains the history of the Jews, or Hebrews, or those who are called the people of God. The New Testament contains the history of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and his disciples, who called themselves after his name, Christians.

Q. What is prophane history?

A. Prophane history is the account of the heathen gods, demi-gods, and heroes.

Q. What is ancient history?

A. Ancient

A. Ancient history is the account of all the empires, kingdoms, republics, and states, from the creation of the world to the birth of Christ.

2. What is modern history?

A. An account of those empires, kingdoms, &c. from the birth of Christ to the present time.

2. Have not the poets made another division of history?

A. Yes; they distinguished first the golden age, which they attributed to Saturn and Rhea, meaning by it the more perfect and happy state of men in the first ages of the world.

2d, The second is the silver age, ascribed to the reign of Jupiter, and which extended to the time that tyrants appeared among the human race, who, to render themselves powerful, oppressed mankind by violence and injustice.

3d, The third was the brazen age, which was, when rapacious men, possessed with the lust of dominion, endeavoured to reduce their brethren to a state of slavery.

4th

4th, The fourth age is that of Iron, when all sorts of crimes began. They pretend it still continues.

Q. What is the earliest history we have?

A. That of the creation of the world, the fall of man, the universal deluge or flood, the preservation of the human race in the family of Noah, and the re-peopling the several nations by his three sons, and their posterity.

Q. How may we divide ancient history so as to have the clearest idea of it?

A. Into the four remarkable periods or æras of the four successive monarchies, called universal.

Q. Why were they called universal?

A. Because each of them extended over the greatest part of the then known world.

Q. What was the first of these universal monarchies?

A. The *Affyrian Empire*, founded by Nimrod the son of Cush, and grandson of Ham, in the year of the world 1800; was continued by his son Ninus, and after him by

his wife Semiramis, the most celebrated heroine of ancient history, and ended under Sandanapolus in 3250, enduring 1450.

Q. What was the second monarchy?

A. The *Persian*. It began with their king, Cyrus, in the year of the world 3468, and ended with Darius's being conquered by Alexander the Great in 3670, before Christ, 330, lasting a little more than 200 years.

Q. By whom was the third monarchy established?

A. The *Grecian*, which was the third universal monarchy, was established by Alexander the Great, king of Macedonia, in the year of the world 3670, and lasted no longer than his life; for, at his death, as there was no proper successor left, his generals divided the empire amongst them.

Q. Why was Alexander called the Great?

A. Both on account of his natural valour, and also the success of his arms; for in twelve years he subdued all the nations from the Adriatic sea, to the river Ganges in India.

Q. What

Q. What was the fourth monarchy?

A. The *Roman empire*, founded by Romulus, at last arose, and became, under Augustus Cæsar, mistress of the whole earth, except China, and those countries that were either unknown, or inhabited by savage nations, or too inconsiderable to attract regard, and continued under twelve Cæsars to the year anno Domini, 96.

Q. Did not the Roman government undergo many changes?

A. Yes; the first state of Rome was regal, under twelve kings; the second was a consulate, under a series of consuls, for the space of four hundred and seventy years. After this the triumvirate was formed between Julius Cæsar, Pompey, and Crassus; but Cæsar aspiring to universal dominion and sovereignty, after a long war with Pompey, whom he defeated, gained to himself, not only the empire of the Romans, but, in a few years, that of all the known world besides.

Q. How

Q. How many forms of Government are there?

A. Three; the monarchical, the aristocratical, and the democratical.

Q. What is the monarchical government?

A. When the supreme authority is in the hands of one person. If he be a good prince, he is called a king; if a bad and unjust one, he is called a tyrant.

Q. Have these persons who have the government in their own hands all the same degree of power?

A. No; some are despotic, that is, act as they please; are absolute masters of the lives and fortunes of their subjects, and, in one word, have no other rule for their conduct but their will, while the authority of others are restrained by the laws.

Q. Who are these despotic sovereigns?

A. The Emperor of the Turks, and in general all the princes of Asia and Africa. In Europe, the Empress of Russia and King of Denmark are despotic.

Q. What is the aristocratic government?

A. When

A. When the sovereign authority is lodged in the hands of a few persons.

Q. In what countries is this kind of government established?

A. In the republics of the united provinces Venice and Genoa.

Q. What is the democratical government?

A. When a number of persons deputed by a nation exercises the sovereign authority.

Q. What countries are under this form?

A. Many of the Swiss cantons, and several of the imperial towns.

Q. Which is the best form of government?

A. This question is not yet decided; but this we may venture to say, that the monarchical government would be the best, were the monarchs always such as they ought to be.

Q. To what form of government do we generally give the preference?

A. To the republican.

Q. Why

Q. Why so?

A. Because it agrees best with our notions of liberty.

Q. What is the established government in England?

A. Limited monarchy, hereditary, and females are capable of succession, the title of his present Majesty is King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, defender of the faith; and he is head of the church. His foreign titles are Duke of Brunswick and Lunenburg, Arch-treasurer of the holy Roman empire, and elector. The heir apparent, has the title of Prince of Wales by creation; he is born Prince of Scotland, and Earl of Chester and Cornwall.

Q. How was England anciently governed?

A. England was first under the *Britons*; 2dly, made tributary to the *Romans* by Julius Cæsar; 3dly, under the *Saxons*; 4thly, under the *Danes*; and 5thly, under the *Normans*, whose conquest of this island, by their bastard Duke, William, is the grand

grand period from whence our historians begin to reckon.

2. Name the succession of our English monarchs from the conquest, with the several families?

A. 1st, Four Norman kings.—1st, William Duke of Normandy; 2^d, William Rufus; 3^d, Henry I.; 4th, Stephen.

2^{dly}, Fourteen kings of the family of Plantagenet, who governed 331 years.—1st, Henry II.; 2^d, Richard I.; 3^d, John; 4th, Henry III.; 5th, Edward, I.; 6th, Edward II.; 7th, Edward III.; 8th, Richard II.; 9th, Henry IV.; 10th, Henry V.; 11th, Henry VI.; 12th, Edward IV.; 13th, Edward V.; 14th, Richard III.

3^{dly}, Five sovereigns of the house of Tudor, who sat upon the throne 118 years.—1st, Henry VII.; 2^d, Henry VIII.; 3^d, Edward VI.; 4th, Mary; 5th, Elizabeth.

4th, Six monarchs of the house of Stuart.—1st, James I.; 2^d, Charles I.; 3^d, Charles II.; 4th, James II.; 5th, Mary II. Queen of William III.; 6th, Anne.

5th,

5th, One king of Nassau.—William III.

6th, Three kings of the Brunswic line, which acceded upon the death of Anne.—1st, George I. ; 2d, George II. ; 3d, George III.

2. What families have succeeded to the crown of France ?

A. After the declension of the Roman empire, the Franks broke in upon the Gauls, and conquered the kingdom: their first king was *Pharamond*, A. D. 419: of this family were twenty-one kings; the second race began under *Pepin*, A. D. 751.—This line was followed by the Capetine race, so called from *Hugh Capet*, A. D. 988.—This family was succeeded by the house of *Valois* in the person of *Philip VI.* A. D. 1328.—Upon the expiration of this family the succession fell on that of *Bourbon*, A. D. 1589.

2. What races of kings have succeeded to the Spanish crown ?

A. Since the expulsion of the Romans, Spain has been governed by four families; the first from the Goths, the second after the

the invasion of the Moors of Africa, from *Don Pelago*; the third from *Don Sancho*, king of Navarre, and the fourth from the house of Austria, by the marriage of *Joanna*, daughter and heiress of Ferdinand surnamed the *Catholic*, to Philip, arch-duke of Austria, eldest son of the emperor Maximilian, whose descendents now wear the Spanish diadem.

Q. Of what family is the Emperor of Germany?

A. Descended from Rudolph I. Count of Halsburg and Landgrave of Alsace, who was the first of his family that obtained the empire. He was elected, A. D. 1273.

Q. Of what family is the Emperor of Turkey?

A. Of the Ottoman family, so called from the warlike Sultan *Othman* or *Osman*, who, A. D. 1300, extended his conquests to a prodigious extent.

Q. From what family are the kings of Portugal descended?

A. Portugal

A. Portugal became a kingdom about the middle of the twelfth century. Count Henry receiving some territories bordering upon it from *Alonzo* King of Leon, as a marriage dowry with his daughter, he expelled the Saracens, and his son *Alonzo* conquered Lisbon, and assumed the title of King of Portugal in 1146.—In 1580 Philip II. of Spain seized upon this country; but in 1640, the Duke of Braganza recovered it, and in his family it has ever since remained independent of Spain.

2. How is Holland governed?

A. By a statholder, or captain general; which office is hereditary in the Prince of Orange's family.

2. How is the present government of Italy divided?

A. It is divided into little republics, principalities, and dukedoms, which, in spiritual matters, are subject to the Pope, who, like the ghost of the deceased Roman empire, sits crowned upon its grave.

2. Who

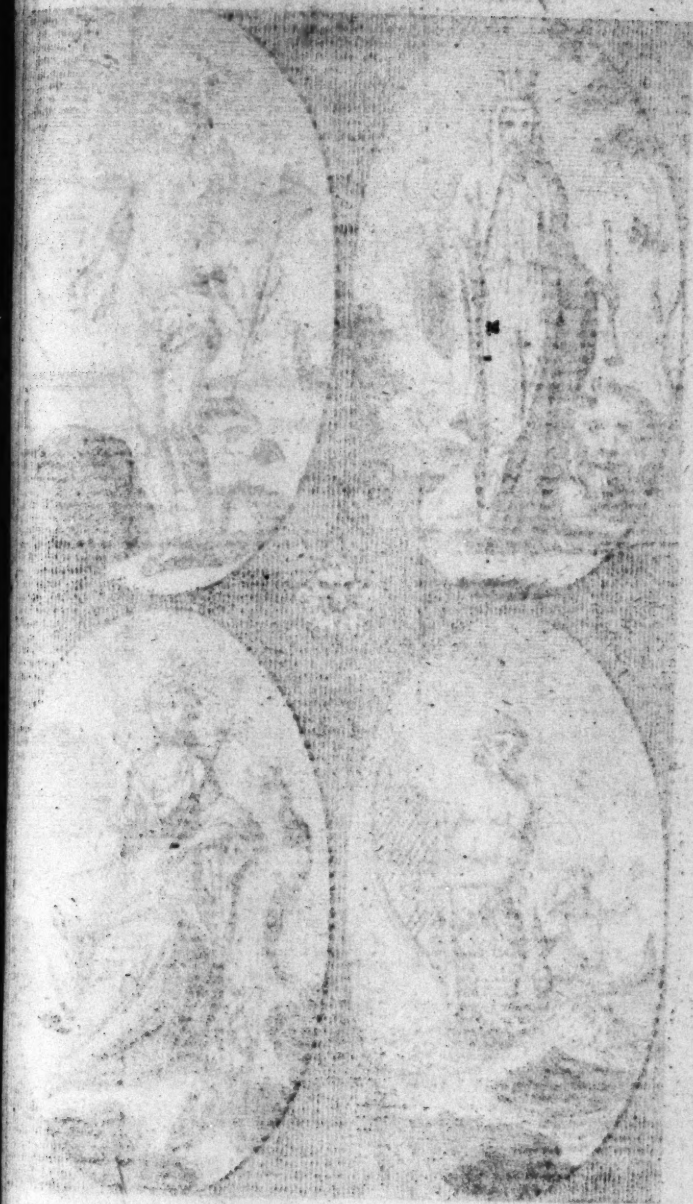
Q. Who is the present Pope, and what is his character?

A. Pius VI. John Angelo Braschi, born Dec. 27. 1717, elected Feb. 15. 1775, elegant in his person and manners, but of moderate abilities, and employs his time in all the little frivolous ceremonies and superstitions, as head of the Romish church is his office to perform, and to which he is extremely attached.

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LESSON XVI.

Mythology.

" Mythology is the basis of history ; the standard of criticism ; and the guide to the studies of youth."

BRYANT.

" *Ne ea quidem quæ sunt a clarioribus poetis ficta negligere.*"

We must not overlook even the fictions of the more illustrious poets. —

QUINTILIAN.

2. **W**HAT is mythology ?

A. The religion of the Pagans *.

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2. In

* Men of a phlegmatic disposition, or of a censorious temper, never cease to rail against the delightful fictions with which Homer and Hesiod, and their poetical imitators, have enriched and embellished their works : but although these fictions did not contain many useful instructions, and many important truths, would there be any reason to attack and destroy a system which

Q. In what did it consist?

A. In the worship of false gods, whom their poets, painters, and statuaries imagined,

which peoples and animates nature, and which makes a solemn temple of the vast universe? These flowers, whose varied and shining beauty you so much admire, are the tears of Aurora. It is the breath of Zephyrus, which gently agitates the leaves. The soft murmurs of the water, are the sighs of the Naiades. A god impels the wind; a god pours out the rivers; grapes are the gift of Bacchus; Ceres presides over the harvest; orchards are the care of Pomona. Does a shepherd sound his reed on the summit of a mountain? It is Pan who, with his pastoral pipe, returns the amorous lay. When the sportsman's horn rouses the attentive ear, it is Diana armed with her bow and quiver, and more nimble than the stag that she pursues, who takes the diversion of the chase. The sun is a god, who, riding on a car of fire, diffuses his light through the world; the stars are so many divinities, who measure with their golden beams the regular progress

gined, and to whom they gave different attributes.

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2. Who

progress of fire: the moon presides over the silence of the night, and consoles the world for the absence of her brother. Neptune reigns in the seas, surrounded by the Neries, who dance to the joyous shells of the Tritons. In the highest heaven is seated Jupiter, the master and father of men and gods. Under his feet roll the thunders, forged by the Cyclops, in the caverns of Etna; his smile rejoices nature; and his nod shakes the foundation of Olympus. Surrounding the throne of their Sovereign, the other divinities quaff the nectar from a cup presented them by the young and beautiful Hebe. In the middle of the great circle shines with distinguished lustre the unrivalled beauty of Venus, alone adorned with a splendid girdle, in which the graces and sports for ever play; and in her hand is a smiling boy, whose power is universally acknowledged by heaven and earth. Sweet illusions of the fancy! pleasing errors of the mind! what objects of pity, those cold and insensible hearts, who have never felt your charms! And
what

Q. Who was the oldest of the gods?

A. Time, called also Saturn.

Q. What is said of him?

A. That he devoured his children as soon as they were born, because it was in the fates that one of them should usurp his dominions.

Q. Did not any of his children escape?

A. Yes, Jupiter, Neptune, Pluto, Juno, and Ceres.

Q. By what means were they saved?

A. His wife, Rhea, pretended to be brought to bed, sometimes of a stone, other times to have miscarried, &c. &c. and concealed the infant she had been delivered of.

what objects of indignation, those fierce and savage spirits who would destroy a world, that has so long been the treasury of the arts; a world imaginary indeed, but delightful, and whose ideal pleasures are so well fitted to compensate for the real troubles and misery of the world in which we live.

Q. What

Q. What is meant by Saturn's devouring his children?

A. Only that time destroys all things.

Q. How was the sovereign authority divided between the three sons of Saturn?

A. Jupiter, as the eldest, had the heavens; Neptune the waters, and Pluto the infernal regions.

Q. Who is the messenger of the gods?

A. Mercury, son of Jupiter and Maia, god of eloquence, and patron of commerce: he had wings on his feet, and a caduceus or wand, with two serpents about it, in his hand; and ushered souls into hell, or the Elysian Fields.

Q. Who was Hebe?

A. The goddess of youth, daughter of Jupiter and Juno, and cup-bearer of Jupiter, because she poured out the nectar, the drink of the gods, which they also called ambrosia.

Q. Who is Cybele?

A. The wife of Saturn, called Rhea, and mother of all the gods. She was

usually supposed to preside over the earth, and has therefore generally a crown of turrets on her head.

Jupiter.

Q. Who was this god?

A. The pagans called him the father of gods and men; he was the son of Saturn and Rhea.

Q. Had he always the name of Jupiter?

A. No; his first name was Jovis, from which by the addition of PATER, was formed *Jupiter*.

Q. How was he brought up?

A. The noise made by the musical instruments of the Corybantes, prevented his childish cries, discovering him to his father Saturn, whilst he was nourished by the goat Amalthea.

Q. Where was he born?

A. Some say in Arcadia, other in the isle of Crete; some indeed give that honour to the city of *Thebes* in Bœotia
whilst

Jupiter



Saturn



Pluto



Neptune



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whilst others fix it at *Messenia* in Peloponnesus.

Q. What was his first action when grown up?

A. He deposed and banished his father Saturn, who had attempted to take away his life.

Q. What is recorded of Jupiter?

A. That he erected the world, which before was a chaos.

Q. Who was his wife?

A. Juno, his own sister.

Q. What is said of her?

A. The ancients considered her as goddess of kingdoms, queen of the gods, and Richness, daughter of Saturn and Rhea, sister and wife of Jupiter, who, by the continual jealousy between them, rendered themselves a very unhappy couple.

Q. Where was she born?

A. Some say at Argos, a town in Greece, others at Samos.

Q. Did not Jupiter often transform himself to succeed in his amours?

G 4

A. Yes.

A. Yes. He metamorphosed himself into a swan for Leda, daughter of Thestius, and wife of Tyndarus, king of Pebalia;—into a bull, for Europa, daughter of Agenon, king of Phenicia, and sister of Cadmus;—into a shower of gold for Danaë, daughter of Acrisius, king of Argos;—and into a shepherd for Mnemosyne, the goddess of memory.

Q. Did he always reign in peace?

A. No. His throne was shaken by the earth-born giants, called Titans, among whom was one, who, from an hundred hands at once, discharged an hundred mountains at the heavens. Jupiter, however, triumphed over them, and established his reign.

Q. What children had he by his different mistresses.

A. By *Leda* he had *Castor* and *Pollux*, brothers of *Helena* and *Clytemnestra*; they followed Jason in his expedition to Colchis for the golden fleece, and conceived so great a friendship for him that they never left

left him; by *Europa*, *Minos*, and *Rhadamanthus*, who, from their severity in dispensing justice while on earth, were named judges of hell; by *Danaë*, *Perseus*, who rendered his name famous, he had also a friendship for men of letters, and founded a school; and by *Mnemosyne*, the goddess of memory, the *nine muses*.

Neptune.

Q. What is related of this god?

A. That he had the sovereignty of the seas: he was the son of *Saturn* and *Rhea*, and brother of *Jupiter* and *Juno*.

Q. What became of him after his birth?

A. It is said that his mother concealed him as soon as he was born from the devouring jaws of *Saturn*, and substituted in his place a young foal, of which she pretended to have been brought to bed.

Q. Whom did he marry?

G 5

A. *Amphitrite*,

A. Amphitrite, daughter of *Oceanus* and *Doris*, mother of the *Neriedes*.

Q. What is the signification of the word *Neptune*?

A. It signifies in Greek *Mosele*, i. e. god of the waters.

Q. Who were his attendants?

A. The *Syrens*, the *Naiades*, and the *Tritons*.

Q. Who were the *Syrens*?

A. They were beings represented under the figure of a beautiful virgin, from the head to the middle, and from thence downwards by that of a fish, covered with scales. They are said to inhabit the steep rocks upon the sea shore, where, having allured passengers by the sweetness of their music, they put them to death.

Q. And the *Naiades*, who were they?

A. They were the same as the *Syrens*, half women, and half fish, and composed the train of *Amphitrite*. They resided as so many domestics, in the palaces of the water gods; where they are said to work

work, and tell stories, and then to come and wait at table.

Q. What say you of the *Tritons*?

A. That they made the court of *Neptune*. Half of their body, from their head to their middle, resembled a man, and the other half had the form of a fish.

Q. How are the *Tritons* represented?

A. Upon a *dolphin*, with a wreathed trumpet in their mouth, with which they are supposed to convene all the water deities, when their monarch wanted their assistance or counsel.

Q. What are the attributes of *Neptune*?

A. He is represented sitting upon a pearl shell, drawn by two sea-horses, having a trident in his right hand, used by him chiefly to rouse up the waves; but he sometimes laid it aside when he was to appease them, though he resumed it on occasion.

Q. Where does he reside?

A. In a palace of chrystal, at the bottom of the sea.

Pluto.

Pluto.

Q. Who was god of the infernal regions?

A. *Pluto*, son of *Saturn* and *Rhea*, to whom *Jupiter*, after destroying his father, gave the infernal regions as his part of the empire. This god was so extremely black and ugly, that he could not find any woman inclined to partake his throne, which determined him to carry away *Proserpine*, daughter of *Ceres*, whilst she amused herself with her nymphs in gathering flowers. He is represented upon a chariot drawn by four black horses.

Q. What are his attributes?

A. A sceptre, or baton of two points, to distinguish it from Neptune's trident, which had three, and a crown of iron on his head.

Q. Who are the judges of the dead in the infernal regions?

A. *Minos*, *Eacus*, and *Rhadamanthus*.

Q. Who

Q. Who was the porter of hell?

A. It was guarded by a vast three headed dog, called *Cerberus*, whose body was covered with snakes instead of hair. He was born of the giant *Typhon* and *Echidna*.—He is said to have given a kind reception to those unhappy souls who descended into hell, but devoured those who attempted to escape.

Q. What are the principal rivers in these da rkrealms?

A. 1. *Acheron*, whose waters are extremely bitter. 2. *Styx*, by which the gods were used to swear. 3. *Cocytus*, flowing out of *Styx*, with an horrible groaning noise, and encreases with the tears of the wicked. 4. *Phlegethon*, swelling with waves of fire. Over these four rivers, the souls were ferried by Charon, to Tartarus or Hades, the heathen hell.

Q. Describe to me Tartarus.

A. TARTARUS, or the REGION OF TORMENTS, is an hideous prison of a terrible

terrible depth, surrounded with the miry bogs of Cocytus, and the river Phlegethon, which rolls torrents of flames all around; three rows of walls with brazen gates, render the place inaccessible. Here the wicked suffer a punishment proportioned to their crimes*.

2. Where

* The most impious of the condemned in hell are, the REBEL GIANTS, who, after their defeat by Jupiter, were cast down to Tartarus, to receive the punishment due to their enormous crimes. The poets, in speaking of these monsters, say, they had snakes instead of legs. TANTALUS is represented as hanging over the waters, which are always flowing through his hand, and gliding from him: to this eternal torment of hunger and thirst he was condemned, for having invited the gods to a feast, when, to prove their divinity, he killed, boiled, and served up the joints of his son Pelops, on the table before them to eat. SISYPHUS, a notorious robber, is condemned to roll a vast stone up to the top of a hill, which ever slides down again, and makes his

Q. Where did they suppose the souls of the virtuous were conveyed after their death?

A. Into Paradise, which they called the ELYSIAN FIELDS, or the REGIONS of BLISS. It consisted of pleasant plains, verdant fields, shady groves, purling streams, and a most serene and temperate air. After the happy souls had long enjoyed this Elysium, they drank of the river Lethe, which made them forget all those pleasures; and then returned to the earth again, and possessed new bodies, in order to fill up the course of the probation in our world.

Q. What other deities do we meet with in the infernal regions?

A. Old *Erebus* and his wife *Nox*, who preside over darkness and night. Also

his labour perpetual. *IXION*, condemned for impiety and ingratitude, in attempting to violate the chastity of *Juno*, is fixed to a wheel, which hurries him round in one perpetual whirl.

Mors

Mors over death, and *Somnus* over sleep, who by his servant *Morpheus*, sends dreams to us above while sleeping. The attendants upon *Somnus* are Rest, Ease, Indolence, Silence and Oblivion.

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Plate 4 Bellona.

Mars.



Ceres.

Minerva.

LESSON XVII.

Sequel of Mythology.

" A Knowledge of feigned History, or Mythology, is
" absolutely necessary to the Reader of the classics, &c.
Knox.

Q. **W**HO is *Mars*?

A. *Mars* was the son of *Jupiter* and *Juno*; he was the god of armies and war, and is represented armed cap-a-pee, with a cock at his feet, because he metamorphosed into a cock his favourite *Alecton*, who keeping watch whilst he was with *Venus*, suffered him to be surprised.

Q. Who was the goddess of war?

A. *Bellona*, sister to *Mars*, who generally conducts his car, armed with a whip and dishevelled hair.

Q. Who is the goddess of wisdom and the sciences?

A. *Minerva*

A. Minerva or Pallas. She is represented completely armed, with an owl at her feet, because that bird sees in the dark, and intimates that true wisdom never sleeps.

Q. Who is the goddess of agriculture?

A. Ceres, daughter of *Saturn* and *Cybelé*; who taught men the art of cultivating the land and sowing seeds; for which reason she has been honoured as the goddess of agriculture; she is painted, as a beauty of the brunette kind, with ears of corn in her hands.

Q. Who is *Morpheus*?

A. God of sleep.

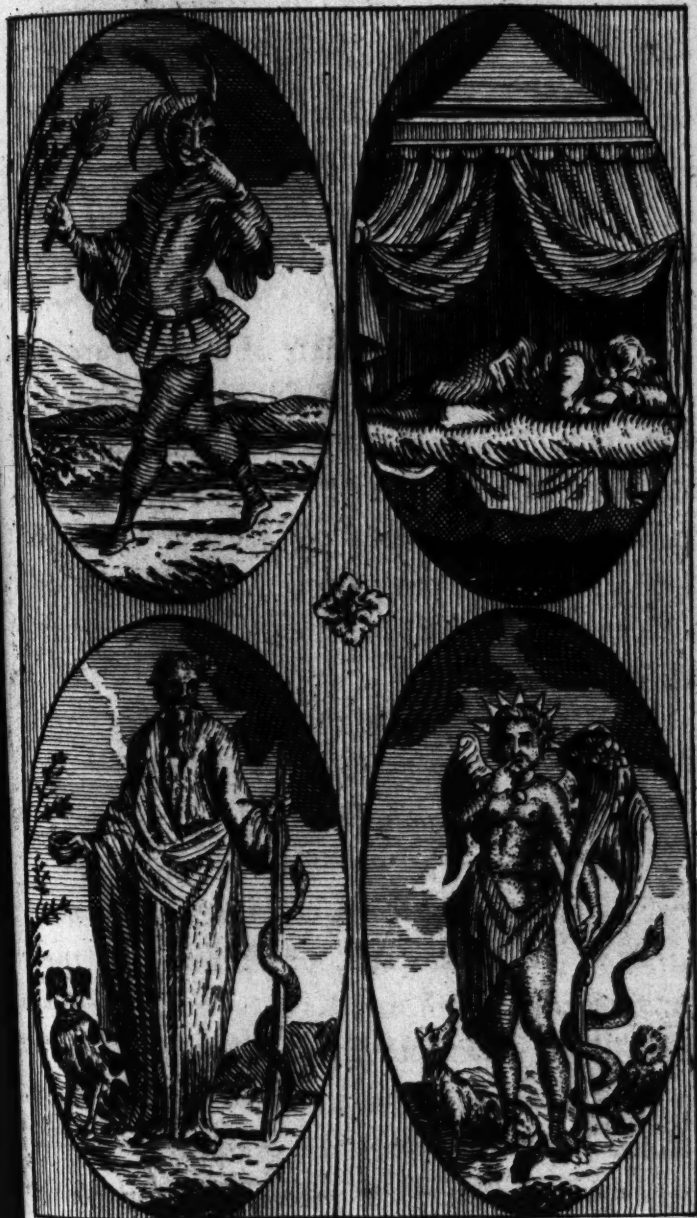
Q. Who is *Momus*?

A. The god of folly. He is represented with a mask and grotesque face;—he was rather a jester, mocker, or mimick of the gods, than a god himself.

Q. Why was he thus represented?

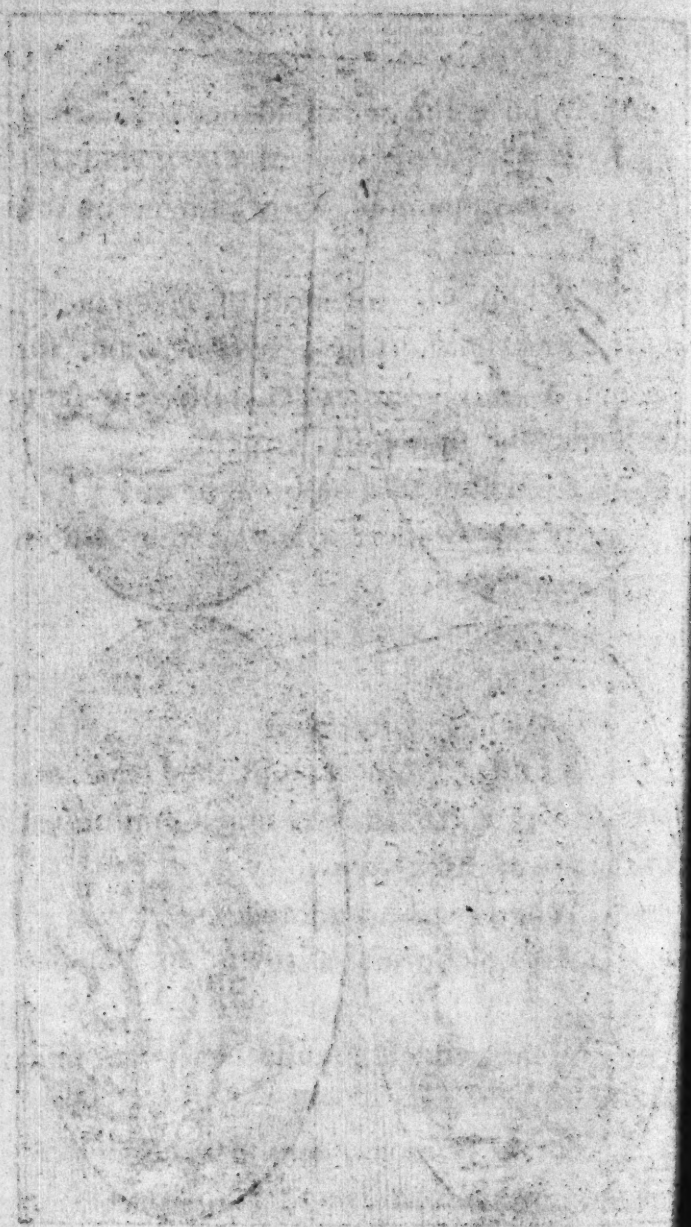
A. Because he was always employed in examining the actions of gods and men, and reprehending them with freedom.

Q. Who



Esculapius.

Harpocrates



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Q. Who is the god of silence?

A. *Harpocrates*, son of *Osiris* and *Isis*.
He is always painted with a finger on his mouth.

Q. Who is the inventor of medicine?

A. *Esculapius*, son of *Apella*, and the nymph *Coronis*.—he is generally represented under the figure of a serpent.

Q. By whom was he brought up?

A. By the centaur *Chiron*, from whom he learned physic.

Q. By whom was he killed?

A. By Jupiter.

Q. For what reason?

A. Because Pluto complained that his empire over the dead was much diminished by the art of *Esculapius*.

Q. Where was he adored?

A. At *Epidaurus*, a town in *Peloponnesus*.

Q. What goddess presides over gardens and flowers?

A. *Flora*; *Pomona*, and her lover *Vertumnus*, over orchards and fruit-trees.

Q. Who

Q. Who are the principal rural deities or gods of the woods?

A. The Satyrs, and Fauns, who ranged over the country, but delighted chiefly in vineyards; *Priapus*, an obscene deity, whose business was to drive away birds, and guard the fruit from thieves; and *Aristæus* and *Terminus*, who was nothing but a bound stone. Besides a great variety of nymphs, as the *Dryades*, *Archades* &c. &c.

Q. Who was *Venus*?

A. She was the handsomest of all the goddesses, who, soon after she was born the Hours carried with pomp into heaven, where the gods found her so extremely beautiful, that they were desirous of marrying her, and named her the goddess of love. Her principal temples were at *Citherea*, an isle in the Archipelago, *Paphos*, a town in Cyprus, and *Amatontia*, another town in the same island.

Q. From what is she said to be produced?

A. From

Vulcan.



Venus.



Apollo.



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A. From the froth of the sea.

Q. Had she any children?

A. Yes. She is the mother of *Cupid*, the god of love, whom they generally represent as a child of seven or eight years old, always naked, handsome, inclining to plumpness, and sometimes a little idle and sly. His quiver, bow, and darts, are continually mentioned to this day.

Q. Who are the attendants of *Venus*?

A. The three *graces*; their names are *Aglaia*, *Thalia*, and *Euphrosine*. They are represented, generally, naked, like three beautiful sisters, and connected together.

Q. Whose wife was *Venus*?

A. She was the wife of *Vulcan*, god of blacksmiths, son of *Jupiter* and *Juno*; as he was extremely ugly and deformed, as soon as he was born, *Jupiter* kicked him out of heaven. In the fall he broke his leg, of which he always remained lame. He is represented with a fiery red face whilst at work with the *Cyclops*. This poor

poor god is always the subject of pity or ridicule. He is the grand cuckold of heaven, and his lameness serves to divert the gods.

Q. What was the figure of the Cyclops?

A. They had vast bodies, were extremely ugly, and had only one eye in the middle of their forehead.

Q. What is said of Vulcan?

A. That he was recalled to heaven, through the intercession of Bacchus, and re-established in the favour of Jupiter.

Q. With whom did he marry?

A. Jupiter caused him to marry Venus, whose infidelities to her husband have been strongly marked out, from the earliest ages. The poets, in particular, have never spared her; and often speak of the public shame she was brought to by her amours with Mars.

Q. Who was Æolus?

A. The God of the wind, tempests, and hurricanes.—Aquilo and Boreas are the cold winds of the north;—Eurus, or the genius of the east winds, presided over all
the

the eastern quarter of the heavens;—Zephyrus, or the west end, presided over the west, and is the mildest of all the wind deities;—And Auster, or Notus, the genius of the south wind, was the chief director of the south. These wind deities were all Brothers, sons of Astræus, the eldest brother of Saturn, by Aurora.

Of Parnassus.

Q. What is Mount *Parnassus*?

A. The habitation of the nine *musæ*, daughters of *Jupiter*, and the goddess *Mnemosyne*, and where *Apollo* presides.

Q. Who is *Apollo*?

A. *Apollo* was son of *Jupiter* and *Latoona*. He is the god of poetry and music, and in that character is represented with a lyre in his hand, and a crown of laurels on his head. He is also god of the sun, and thence is generally called *Phœbus*.

Q. Where was he born?

A. At

A. At *Delos*, an island in the *Ægean* sea.

Q. What is the river that flows at the foot of Mount *Parnassus*?

A. *Hippocrene*, a fountain of Mount *Helicon*, in *Bœotia*.

Q. How is it said to have been formed?

A. The poetic horse *Pegasus*, so often mentioned by the poets, gave a kick against the mount, and the river *Hippocrene* immediately sprung out.

Q. What are the names of the muses?

A. *Calliope*, *Clio*, *Erato*, *Thalia*, *Melpomene*, *Terpsichon*, *Euterpe*, *Polyhymnia*, *Urania*.

Q. Over what particular science does each muse preside?

A. *Calliope* is the goddess of heroic poetry; *Clio*, of history; *Erato*, of amorous poetry; *Thalia*, of comedy; *Melpomene*, of tragedy; *Terpsichon*, of dance; *Polyhymnia*, of the ode; *Euterpe*, of music and instruments; and *Urania*, of astronomy.

Q. How

2. How are they represented by the Poets?

A. As very young, very handsome, and adorned with garlands of flowers.

Of the Demi-Gods or Heroes.

2. What do we understand by an Hero?

A. A title given by the Greeks to those who had made themselves famous.

2. What is a Demi-God?

A. A man born of a god or goddess by a mortal: there are infinite numbers of them.

2. Who are the principal?

A. Æneas, Ulysses, Hercules, Theseus, Achilles, and Jason.

2. What is remarkable in the history of Æneas?

A. He was a Trojan Prince, son of Anchises and the goddess Venus; he is memorable for his grateful care of his aged father, whom he bore through the flames of Troy upon his shoulders, at the hazard of his life and his son's, a child, who was

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obliged

obliged to cling to his garments to escape them. Arriving in Italy, he married Lavinia, the daughter of Latinus, king of the Latins, and built Lavinium, so named after his wife. He died 1197 before Christ.

Q. What is recorded of Ulysses?

A. That on his return by sea from the Trojan war to the island of Ithaca, of which he was king, the Syrens used every effort to stop him; but that he might not be surprised by the melodious voice, he stopped his ears, and caused himself to be tied to the mast of the ship.

Q. What are we told of his wife Penelope?

A. Besieg'd by a numerous train of lovers in the absence of her husband, she deliver'd herself by artifice. She promised to make choice of one of them, as soon as a piece of tapestry, on which she was at work, should be finish'd; but every night she unwove all she had done the preceding day.

Q. Who was Hercules?

A. Son

A. Son of Jupiter and Alcmene, wife of Amphytrion. He was exposed thro' the whole course of his life, to perform the most dangerous adventures, by the malignity of Juno, and the fatality of his birth. His principal exploits are termed by way of eminence the twelve labours of Hercules.

2. Explain them.

A. 1. Whilst a child in his cradle, he strangled two serpents which Juno had sent to destroy him.

2. He killed in the forest of Lerna, a frightful Hydra of fifty heads: when he cut off one of these heads, another immediately sprung up in its place.

3. He caught and killed on mount Melampus an extremely swift hind with horns of gold.

4. He overcame Diomedes, king of Thrace, who fed his horses with the flesh of his guests, and threw him to be eaten by his own horses.

5. He took on the mountain Erimanthus in Arcadia, a wild boar that had made dreadful havock round that country; and dragged it alive to Euristheus.

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6. He

6. He tamed a furious bull that laid desolate Crète.

7. He conquered upon the banks of Tar-tesus, by the invincible force of his arm, a giant of immense stature with three bodies, and carried away his flock.

8. He separated the mountains Calpis and Abila, which were before joined.

9. He carried away the golden apples from the gardens of the Hesperides, after he had killed the dragon that watched them.

10. He suffocated in wrestling the giant Antheus.

11. To ease Atlas he took the heavens upon his shoulders.

12. And last he is represented covered with the skin of a lion of an amazing size, which he had conquered in the woods of Nemæa.

Q. How did the life of this famous hero end?

A. Having slain the centaur Nessus, the dying monster gave Dejanira (Hercules's wife) a garment dipt in his own blood,

as a preservative for love.—This Dejanira soon after sent him to regain his affections. The hero had no sooner put on the poisoned shirt, than he was seized with violent and incurable pains; therefore, making a funeral pile on mount Oëta, he set fire to it, and closed with the most dreadful agonies, a life of hardships for the good of his fellow-creatures.

Q. What is meant by the Hesperides?

A. They were the daughters of Hesperius, son of Japet, and brother of Atlas.

Q. What is said of Atlas?

A. He was the son of Uranus, a great observer of the stars, and the first who represented the world by a sphere.

Q. What is related of Theseus?

A. He was the son of Ægeus, king of Athens, and Æthra, daughter of the wife Pitheus, at whose court he was brought up by Troezenus; he killed the Minotaur.

Q. What was this Minotaur?

A. He was a monster which had a bull's head, and all its lower parts human. It

was inclosed in the Labyrinth at Crete, made by Dædalus, by the order of Minos, king of that isle, the inhabitants of which sacrificed men to Jupiter and Saturn; and where many of the gods and goddesses were born.

Q. Who was Perseus?

A. Son of Jupiter and Danæ, daughter of Acrisius king of Argos. He was king of the Mycenians. He had the wings of Mercury, the shield of Minerva, the helmet of Pluto, and a sword forged by Vulcan. Thus armed, he overcame and cut off the head of Medusa. He also delivered Andromeda, daughter of Cepheus, king of Ethiopia, from a monster, and afterwards married her. He lived about 1348 years before Christ.

Q. What is said by the poets of the head of Medusa?

A. That it was surrounded by serpents instead of hair, and turned to stones those who had the rashness to look upon it.

Q. What is remarkable in the history of Achilles?

A. He

A. He was the son of the goddess Thetis, daughter of Nereus and Doris, the most beautiful of the Nereides; and Peleus, son of the famous Eacus, king of Egina, and the nymph Endeis daughter of Chyron: he was educated by the centaur Chiron. His mother dipped him in the Styx, all but the heel, by which she held him, to make him invulnerable. He was slain at the siege of Troy by Paris, whose arrows shot him in the heel, 1180 before Christ.

Q. What is a Centaur?

A. A monster, half man and half horse.

Q. Who was Jason?

A. Son of Eson and Alcimeda. Upon the death of his father, he was placed under the tuition of Pelias.

Q. What is his story?

A. At the persuasion of Pelias, he undertook the Argonauti expedition to Chelcos for the golden fleece, which he carried away about 937 years before Christ.

Q. What golden fleece was that?

A. The hide or fleece of a ram, called golden,

golden, because it was of a golden colour. It was guarded by bulls that breathed fire from their nostrils; and by a vast and watchful dragon in the grove of Mars.

Q. Who was Pelias?

A. Son of Neptune and Tyro.

Q. How was he brought up?

A. He was fed by a mare, and became the most cruel of all men.

Q. What did he when grown up?

A. He not only usurped the estates of Jason, but caused him to be imprisoned.

Q. What else is recorded of him?

A. He sacrificed his mother-in-law to Juno, and put to death the wife and children of Eson; but Jason was saved from his fury, and educated in private.

Q. Who was Paris, and what was his judgment?

A. Paris was the son of Priam, king of Troy, and Hecube. At the wedding of Thetis and Peleus, when Juno, Venus, and Minerva were present, the goddess Discord threw into the assembly a golden apple with
this

this inscription, To the fairest. Each of these three goddesses wanted to have the apple, and each said she was the fairest. At length they agreed to be judged by Paris, at that time feeding his flock upon mount Ida, who decided in favour of Venus. He is memorable in history for carrying off Helena, wife of Menelaus, king of Mycena, in his absence, which occasioned the famous siege of Troy, when he was slain by Pyrrhus 1188 before Christ.

Q. Who was Pyrrhus?

A. Son of Achilles king of Thessaly, and Deidamia daughter of Lycomedia.

Q. What were the actions of this prince?

A. He was signalized for his cruelty.

Q. Mention some of them.

A. He sacrificed Polyxena, daughter of Priam and Hecube, upon the tomb of Achilles.

2. He massacred Priam at the foot of the altar.

3. He carried Andromache with Astianax into Epirus.

Q. Who

Q. Who was Andromache?

A. Daughter of Ætion king of Thebes, wife of Hector and mother of Astianax.

Q. What more did he?

A. Arrived in Epirus, he is said to have thrown Astianax off a high tower, and to have married Andromache.

Q. How did he die?

A. Hermoine his wife, daughter of Menelaus and Helen, prevailed upon Arestes, son of Agamemnon and Clytemnestra, with the promise of marriage, to assassinate him.

Q. Where did he accomplish this crime?

A. In the temple, at the celebration of a ceremony.

F I N I S.

Directions to the Binder for placing the Cuts.

PLATE

1	Facing Page	78
2		121
3		126
4		137
5		138
6		140
7	Map of the World	88
8	— of Europe	95

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